



The

INDIAN



PANORAMA

EVER TRUTHFUL

1 Indian American Weekly : Since 2006

15 YEARS

VOL 15 ISSUE 40 • NEW YORK / DALLAS • OCT 01 - OCT 07, 2021 • ENQUIRIES: 646-247-9458 • info@theindianpanorama.com

www.theindianpanorama.news

TUNISIA HAS THE FIRST WOMAN PRIME MINISTER



Raoudha Boudent Ramadhane was named as Tunisia's first woman Prime Minister

TUNIS (TIP): Tunisia's President on Wednesday, September 29, named Raoudha Boudent Ramadhane as nation's first woman Prime Minister, appointing her to lead a transitional government after her predecessor was sacked.

President Kais Saied named Ramadhane, a 63-year-old professor at a prestigious engineering school, to the PM's post in a surprise decision. (Agencies)

FUMIO KISHIDA WINS VOTE TO BECOME JAPAN PM

"I FELT OUR DEMOCRACY IS IN A CRISIS. I AM DETERMINED TO MAKE AN EFFORT TOWARDS MAKING A MORE OPEN LDP AND CREATING A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR JAPAN" - FUMIO KISHIDA



Newly elected LDP leader Fumio Kishida (right) with his predecessor and Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga in Tokyo on Wednesday, September 29 - Photo / Reuters

TOKYO (TIP): Former Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida won the governing party's leadership election on Wednesday and is set to become the next Prime Minister, facing the tasks of reviving a pandemic-hit economy and ensuring a strong alliance with Washington to counter growing regional security risks.

Kishida replaces outgoing party leader PM Yoshihide Suga, who is stepping down after serving only one year. As new leader of the Liberal Democratic Party, Kishida is certain to be elected the next PM on Monday, October 4, in Parliament, where his party and its coalition partner control both Houses. In his victory speech, Kishida vowed to tackle "national crises", including Covid-19, the pandemic-battered economy and the declining population and birthrate. He said he would pursue "important issues related to Japan's future". (Agencies)

PM Modi had a very successful visit to US, says Ambassador Sandhu

Remarks by India's Ambassador to the US, Taranjit Singh Sandhu, come at a dinner event hosted by Indiaspora

WASHINGTON, DC (TIP): Prime Minister Narendra Modi had a very successful visit to the US during which he held his maiden bilateral meeting with President Joe Biden and had a good candid and substantial exchange with like-minded Quad leaders at their first in-person summit, India's envoy here has said.

Remarks by India's Ambassador to the US, Taranjit Singh Sandhu, came at a dinner event hosted by Indiaspora on Wednesday, September 29.

"We just had a very successful visit



Ambassador Taranjit Singh Sandhu - File photo

here," Sandhu said.

Eminent members of the Indian-American community had gathered for the first time in the national capital after the Covid pandemic hit the country.

During the visit, there was an important bilateral meeting between President Biden and Prime Minister Modi, the first one since the Biden-Harris administration was inaugurated in January this year.

CONTD ON PAGE 38

All eyes are on West Bengal by-polls

MAMATA BANERJEE IS CONTESTING FROM BHABANIPUR, ONE OF THE THREE CONSTITUENCIES WHICH GO TO POLL

KOLKATA (TIP): Polling for the three assembly constituencies of West Bengal began at 7 am on Thursday, September 30. West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee is contesting from the Bhabanipur seat.

Besides Bhabanipur, the by-polls are being held in Jangipur and Samserganj seats in Murshidabad district.

A total of 6,97,164 voters are eligible to exercise their franchise in the three constituencies.

Votes will be counted on October 3.

Banerjee, who lost from the Nandigram constituency in the Assembly election earlier this year, has to win this by-poll to retain the chief minister's post.

Polls had to be countermanded in



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee File photo

Jangipur and Samserganj in April following the death of two candidates.

As part of its elaborate security arrangements, the Election Commission has deployed 72 companies of central

CONTD ON PAGE 38

NEW YORK STATE TAKES ACTION TO ADDRESS SCHOOL BUS DRIVER SHORTAGE



ALBANY, NY (TIP): New York officials are taking immediate steps to tackle a school bus driver shortage statewide.

Governor Kathy Hochul

announced a multi-agency plan this weekend to address the shortage: The plan includes steps to remove barriers and recruit people

CONTD ON PAGE 38

"We are leaving no stone unturned to make sure schools have adequate bus service to bring students to school and back." - Gov. Kathy Hochul. - File Photo



Andy Singh

516-441-7000
16 E. Old Country Road
Hicksville, NY 11801

E-mail: herman@omnimortgage.com



OMNI MORTGAGE CORP.
Residential | Commercial | SBA Loans



Herman Singh

718-441-7000
118-18 101 Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11419

Registered Mortgage Broker- NYS Dept of Financial Services
Loans arranged thru 3rd party providers

PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER:

Prof. Indrajit S. Saluja

VICE PRESIDENT:

Chitagam Saluja

CHIEF EDITOR:

Prof Indrajit S. Saluja

CONSULTING EDITOR :Deepak Dwivedi, Chairman,
Bhaskar Group, Delhi**ASSISTANT EDITOR:**

Bidisha Roy

SPL. REPORTER UNO:

H.S. Panaser

GRAPHICS DIRECTOR:

Om Parkash Malik

DIRECTOR**ADMINISTRATION:**

Gauri Beri

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS:Baldev Singh / BJ Videos
Gunjesh Desai / Masala Junction
Jay Mandal,
Mohammad Jaffer,
SnapsIndia
Mohammad Shahzad,
Zia Khan,
Nisha Rani
Vaaho Photographers,
Vijay Shah - Photo Journalist.**CORRESPONDENTS :****SACRAMENTO:**

Parminder S. Aujla

NEW YORK :

Chitagam

FRESNO:

Tarlochan Singh

DALLAS:

Harjit Dhesi, Amarjit Dhillon

OVERSEAS CORRESPONDENTS**LONDON**

Nirpal Singh Shergill

SPL CORRESPONDENT**DELHI BUREAU CHIEF:**

Chandan Singh

CHANDIGARH:

Manjit Sidhu

LUDHIANA:

A.S. Arora,

R.P.Sharma

JAIPUR :

Dr. Yashpaul Goyal

DALLAS BUREAU CHIEF & VP

Lovlien Kaurr

972-330-3139

editor@theindianpanorama.news

The Indian Panorama

P.O. Box No. 190067, South

Richmond Hill, NY 11419,

Tel: 646-247-9458

Email:

editor@theindianpanorama.news

DISCLAIMER

THE INDIAN PANORAMA ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CLAIMS MADE IN ADVERTISEMENTS. WE ONLY SELL SPACE. VIEWS PUBLISHED IN THE NEWSPAPER ARE THOSE OF THE AUTHORS AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS OF THE NEWSPAPER. ALL RIGHTS ARE RESERVED. REPRODUCTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITHOUT PERMISSION IN WRITING FROM THE INDIAN PANORAMA IS PROHIBITED.

-: GUEST COMMENT -:

PM Modi did well to commit India to its democratic traditions at UN General Assembly

For the third consecutive year in a row, and his fourth such speech since he was elected in 2014, Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the UN General Assembly, outlining his outlook on India's place in the world. Referring to India's large population, he said that the world grows when India grows, and transforms when India reforms, pointing to examples of the country's progress and impact: in the area of vaccines and pharmaceuticals, particularly to counter COVID, green technology and the promise of 450 GW of renewable energy by 2030, and poverty alleviation. He also enumerated how many Indians had been provided water connections, banking access, insurance coverage, health services and homes, although his claim that these "all-inclusive" development goals had been achieved only in the "last seven years", struck a politically partisan note that was out of place. Moving to regional matters, Mr. Modi pointed to the contrast between

India's actions and those of Pakistan and China in veiled references. In an apparent message to Pakistan, he linked events in Afghanistan, where the Taliban have taken control, to the problem of "regressive thinking" that leads to the use of terrorism as "a political tool". He also called for safeguarding the maritime sphere from the "race of expansion and exclusion" and referred to the need for investigating the "origins of the coronavirus", subjects China is sensitive about. Addressing the UN directly for its own shortcomings, the PM said that time waits for no one, urging the UN to speed up the reforms process that has been flagging for more than a decade, which would include an expanded Security Council. This, he explained, is the only way to restore the credibility of global governance institutions.

Mr. Modi's strongest words came at the beginning of his speech, where he launched a defense of the state of Indian democracy, which has come in for some

criticism over the past few years. He said India had been named the "mother of democracy" for its adherence to democratic values, symbolized by its diversity, pluralism, inclusivity, and equality, that allowed someone like him, who had once worked at his father's tea stall, to become the country's leader. The PM's words appeared to be a response to comments made during his Washington visit, where U.S. President Joe Biden and Vice-President Kamala Harris stressed the need to strengthen democratic processes internally. Even as he addressed the UN, protesters outside criticized his government for actions against activists, NGOs, the laws on agriculture and citizenship, and incidents of lynching and mob violence. While the PM's commitment to India's "great tradition of democracy" was heartening, it will be measured not by words at the world body, but by answers and actions on the ground in India.

(The Hindu)

*The White House & Quad***AMID GLOBAL REALIGNMENTS, INDIA SHOULD SECURE ITS INTERESTS**

The strategic reverberations of Narendra Modi's September 24 double bill in Washington will be felt for long - a meeting with US President Joe Biden, followed by the first in-person Quad Summit where they were joined by the PMs of Australia and Japan. For starters, China was carefully omitted from the joint statements of both meetings. All opening statements by the President and the PMs suggested that the Quad had relegated the security aspect from its exertions. It was even felt that AUKUS, a security trilateral between the UK and two Quad partners, Australia and the US, had overtaken Quad by being more proactive in digging the trenches for a future battle with a new adversary.

However, the simultaneous presence of the Quad spy chiefs in Washington, and Quad's commencement of joint work in emerging technology indicates China was the elephant in the room. The growing proximity of common purpose may help India access the currencies of tomorrow such as military drones, 6G, semiconductors and specialized solar panels. It was almost a decade back that South Block had ruled out Russia as an across-the-board partner in frontier areas. But it is also noteworthy that even during the UNGA address Biden did not name China. Biden also broke a long-running China-US stalemate by facilitating the release of Huawei executive Meng Wanzhou, and Beijing reciprocated by freeing two



Canadians.

The challenge before India is to lean on the West to attain global standards in technological and military fields. Yet it must avoid being used as a proxy diplomatic weapon, for there is the risk of being left in the lurch if America's priorities change. The Biden bilateral and the Quad Summit have promised much in regional infrastructure and co-development in frontier areas. But on the ground,

India is yet to recover the trade concessions rescinded by Trump and the PM's expectation of a generous immigration quota was merely acknowledged by Biden. India also can ill-afford to close all communications with two of its neighbors. In these fast-changing global realignments, India should steadfastly secure its own interests.

(Tribune India)

GOPIO-CT HOSTS NEW STUDENTS FROM INDIA ENROLLED AT UCONN BUSINESS SCHOOL

STAMFORD, CT (TIP): Global Organization of People of Indian Origin Connecticut Chapter (GOPIO-CT) organized a program of welcoming new students from India at the Univ. of Connecticut, School of Business from its Stamford and Hartford campuses with a networking dinner on Friday, Sept. 24th at the Hampton Inn and Suites in Stamford. While it was networking event for the students and the Indian American community, it also served as an interactive session with a high-profile panel of Indian American Corporate Achievers and entrepreneurs.

The program started with a welcome by GOPIO-CT President Ashok Nichani who told the students to consider GOPIO-CT as their big family and that they could seek help from the chapter. GOPIO International Chairman and GOPIO-CT Trustee Dr. Thomas Abraham moderated the interactive panel session.

The panelists included Anand Chavan, founder and CEO, GuardX, Inc. (New York, NY); Ramya Subramanian, Co-Founder and COO of Docty Inc. (Stamford, CT); Pradeep Govil, Program Manager, ASML (Wilton, CT); Sunita Menon, Global Data Advisor & Adjunct Prof. at U. of Florida and formerly with IBM Data-Driven Business (Stamford, CT); Prasad Chintalapudi, Vice President, Panzer Solutions (Norwalk, CT); Siddharth (Sid) Jain, President, AAAUM (OM)/Co-Founder, HVB 88 Angels LLC (Pelham, NY) and Prof. Rajasekhar Vangapaty, Registrar, Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT), SUNY (New York, NY).

Extending a warm welcome to the new students, most of them joining only in early September, Dr. Abraham said, "America is the greatest country which provides opportunity to open up your mind and you can be whatever you want to become, whether a professional in a large corporation, or help to manage a hedge fund or as a scientist or professor or as an entrepreneur, so, go and grab the opportunities awaiting you." Dr. Abraham also added that although, he is a nanotechnologist, his passion was building community institutions since he came in 1973 as a student at Columbia University.

Each of the panelists were asked to comment on two sets of questions on their journey to where they reached today and how earlier career choices lead them to where they are now as well as their first "win" that made them confident and the biggest challenge to achieving that success. The panelists provided personal experience to their success. The panelists also provided guidance and inputs on educational preparation, necessary prior experience, what skills are the most important and transferable skills to acquire so as to market oneself to the American job market.

GuardX CEO Chavan, who had over 18 years of industry experience in multiple software development, technology leadership and as strategist role with Amaranth, UBS, Citi, Credit Suisse, JP Morgan and Bear Stearns, told the students on what skill set he would look for in hiring and



GOPIO-CT officials with the panelists and students at the Welcome Dinner event.

the hot sectors which are hiring in the next few years.

Former IBM executive and global data advisor Sunita Menon said, "Be curious about finding the WHY! That brings the creativity, challenge and innovation into your work, no matter what field you are in. It will build new paths for you and also inspire others around you."

Docty Co-Founder Subramanian who was trained as an Electrical and Electronics Engineer, and started her remarkable journey as a businesswoman from home in 2008, when she founded her IT Solutions & Services company, Arka Informations advised the students to "Find YOUR strength and surround yourself with people with what you work on and be open to learning, Find YOUR passion so work does not seem like work and Find YOUR niche in whatever you choose."

Semiconductor giant ASML's project manager Pradeep Govil emphasized importance of skills needed to be successful in gaining fruitful employment & in life, specifically, employers looking for evidence of skills gained like problem solving, critical thinking, communication, presentation, innovation, listening ability, community involvement & outreach, and lifelong learning. He suggested to use Bragg Book like tool to show evidence of proficiency in skills learned through course work, project work, term papers, novel solutions to problems, participation in seminars, internships and presentations to gain acceptance to one's ideas and proposals.

Panzer Solutions, an IT and recruiting company Vice President Prasad Chintalapudi said, "Being able to communicate effectively in is perhaps the most important of all life skills and as well managerial skill. It is what enables us to pass information to other people in spoken and writing and also listening skill will improve to understand what is said to us."

AAAUM (OM) President Sid Jain said, "Enjoy the student life exploring the culture and camaraderie with those around you. One skill to perfect is communication in all forms: - verbal, non-verbal, written and reading."

FIT Registrar Prof. Rajasekhar Vangapaty told the students that America is the land of opportunity, aim high! "Your education should not be limited to learning facts, rather you should train yourself to think unconventionally and to look at the world through an inquisitive and investigative lens pushing you out of your comfort zone!"

"Be hungry and committed to your goals. It is not your fault if you do not know the path to your goal, but it is your fault if you do not enquire and learn of the path to your goal," Prof. Vangapaty added.

Sid Jain further added that since quotas for H1-B to Green Cards via EB-2 (Master's Degree) | EB-3 (Bachelor's Degree) are not expected to advance within the current administration, Masters Students should contemplate getting their advanced Degrees such as Ph. D and get published in reputed journals to get a chance to getting qualified as EB-1 category and faster track to Green Card then EB-2 or EB-3 as of date.

All the students at the event were introduced and some of them asked questions to the panelists. "It was a highly successful program with a larger participation of the students this year," said Dr. Abraham.

The event was sponsored by Foreseer.AI, an AI enabled platform for information extraction from unstructured data which was built by GuardX.

Over the last 15 years, GOPIO-CT, a chapter of GOPIO International has become an active and dynamic organization hosting interactive sessions with policy makers and academicians, community events, youth mentoring and networking workshops, and working with other area organizations to help create a better future. GOPIO-CT - Global Organization of People of Indian Origin - serves as a non-partisan, secular, civic and community service organization - promoting awareness of Indian culture, customs and contributions of PIOs through community programs, forums, events and youth activities. It seeks to strengthen partnerships and create an ongoing dialogue with local communities.

INDIAN OVERSEAS CONGRESS USA STAGES PROTEST AGAINST MODI POLICIES AT THE UNITED NATIONS

NEW YORK (TIP): The Indian Overseas Congress, USA, an advocacy organization that promotes democracy, human rights, and equal justice together with its supporters and friends, held a protest rally in front of the United Nations on Saturday, September 25, 2021, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi was delivering his address to the General Assembly.

"Although we have no issues with a Prime Minister of India visiting the U.S. or the U.N. and promoting better bi-lateral relations or promoting world peace, it is imperative to let him know at the same time that we do not approve of his misgovernance in dealing with COVID epidemic or undermining the democratic



Indian Overseas Congress, USA held a protest rally against Modi policies in front of the United Nations on Saturday, September 25, 2021

institutions," said George Abraham, Vice-Chairman of the IOCUSA. "If there is to be genuine economic progress and social development in India, political tranquility and social harmony is a pre-requisite without which there would be very little hope for the future. Let us, at the minimum, raise our voices, no matter how feeble it may be, because one day our next generation might ask where you have been when India took a turn towards authoritarianism and fascism," Abraham added.

"I am glad to state that IOCUSA stands firmly behind India's farmers who have been denied their rightful voice and concerns to be heard by the Modi government which has pushed a set of bills through the parliament for the benefit of the crony capitalists and to the detriment of our farmers" Mr. Mohinder Singh Gilzian, President of the IOCUSA said.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Gandhi Jayanti: Remembering Father of the Nation

Gandhi Jayanti is observed on October 2 every year to honour Mahatma Gandhi for his invaluable contributions to India's freedom struggle. The Indian Panorama pays tribute to Father of the Nation on his 152nd birth anniversary.

Gandhi Jayanti is celebrated on October 2 every year to mark the birth anniversary of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, popularly known as Mahatma Gandhi. Known as the 'Father of the Nation', the ideologies, struggles and kindness of Gandhi drove India to its independence. One of the most prominent leaders of India's independence movement, Gandhi was the man behind non-violent civil disobedience.

This year will mark the 152nd birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and the entire world observes this day as 'Gandhi Jayanti'. It is a national holiday in India to honour the legendary leader without whom India wouldn't have tasted independence. The United Nations also observe Gandhi Jayanti as 'International Day of Non-Violence' every year.

Gandhi played a key role in India's freedom movement and his philosophies towards India have impacted people's lives. His method of non-violence inspired many civil rights movements in the world and he also fought to bring significant changes in society.

Born on October 2, 1869, in Porbandar in Gujarat, Mahatma Gandhi is considered as the nation's tallest leader of the independence movement. As a child, he always expressed his feelings about patriotism and united India with his thoughts and ideologies to fight for freedom.

He successfully led India's non-violent movement against the colonial British empire. He went to South Africa to study law and led nationwide campaigns for farmers and labourers and also fought against caste discrimination and was vocal about expanding women's rights.

He led the Dandi Salt March in 1930, a movement which was joined by many Indians to break the salt law. He was also at the forefront of the Quit India Movement in 1942, which compelled the Britishers to move out of India. Gandhi was a great supporter of truth and non-violence and he left behind his valuable teachings that are still remembered and valued by people of all age groups.

Gandhi Jayanti is observed to honour and pay rich tributes to the Father of the Nation and on this day, people remember his invaluable contributions to India's freedom struggle and independence movement. His path-breaking principles of ahimsa and swaraj are observed across all the institutions in India. People celebrate his teachings through various initiatives that can lead to the betterment of our

surroundings, the city and eventually the country.



Mahatma Gandhi quotes

"Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever."

"If we could change ourselves, the tendencies in the world would also change. As a man changes his own nature, so does the attitude of the world change towards him. We need not wait to see what others do."

"A man is but the product of his thoughts. What he thinks, he becomes."

"The greatness of humanity is not in being human, but in being humane."

"Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's needs, but not every man's greed."

"You must not lose faith in humanity. Humanity is like an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty, the ocean does not become dirty."

"An error does not become truth by reason of multiplied propagation, nor does truth become error because nobody sees it. Truth stands, even if there be no public support. It is self sustained."

"I will not let anyone walk through my mind with their dirty feet."

"In a gentle way, you can shake the world."

"Nobody can hurt me without my permission."

"Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in harmony."

"We may never be strong enough to be entirely nonviolent in thought, word and deed. But we must keep nonviolence as our goal and make strong progress towards it."

"Change yourself you are in control."

"When restraint and courtesy are added to strength, the latter becomes irresistible."

"The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong."

"It is unwise to be too sure of one's own wisdom. It is healthy to be reminded that the strongest might weaken and the wisest might err."

"Nearly everything you do is of no importance, but it is important that you do it."

From Page 4

Mahatma Gandhi: The leader of India's non-violent independence movement

Mahatma Gandhi was the primary leader of India's independence movement and also the architect of a form of non-violent civil disobedience that would influence the world. Until Gandhi was assassinated in 1948, his life and teachings inspired activists including Martin Luther King Jr. and Nelson Mandela.

Mahatma Gandhi was the leader of India's non-violent independence movement against British rule and in South Africa who advocated for the civil rights of Indians. Born in Porbandar, India, Gandhi studied law and organized boycotts against British institutions in peaceful forms of civil disobedience. He was killed by a fanatic in 1948.

Early Life and Education

Indian nationalist leader Gandhi (born Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi) was born on October 2, 1869, in Porbandar, Kathiawar, India, which was then part of the British Empire.

Gandhi's father, Karamchand Gandhi, served as a chief minister in Porbandar and other states in western India. His mother, Putlibai, was a deeply religious woman who fasted regularly.

Young Gandhi was a shy, unremarkable student who was so timid that he slept with the lights on even as a teenager. In the ensuing years, the teenager rebelled by smoking, eating meat and stealing change from household servants.

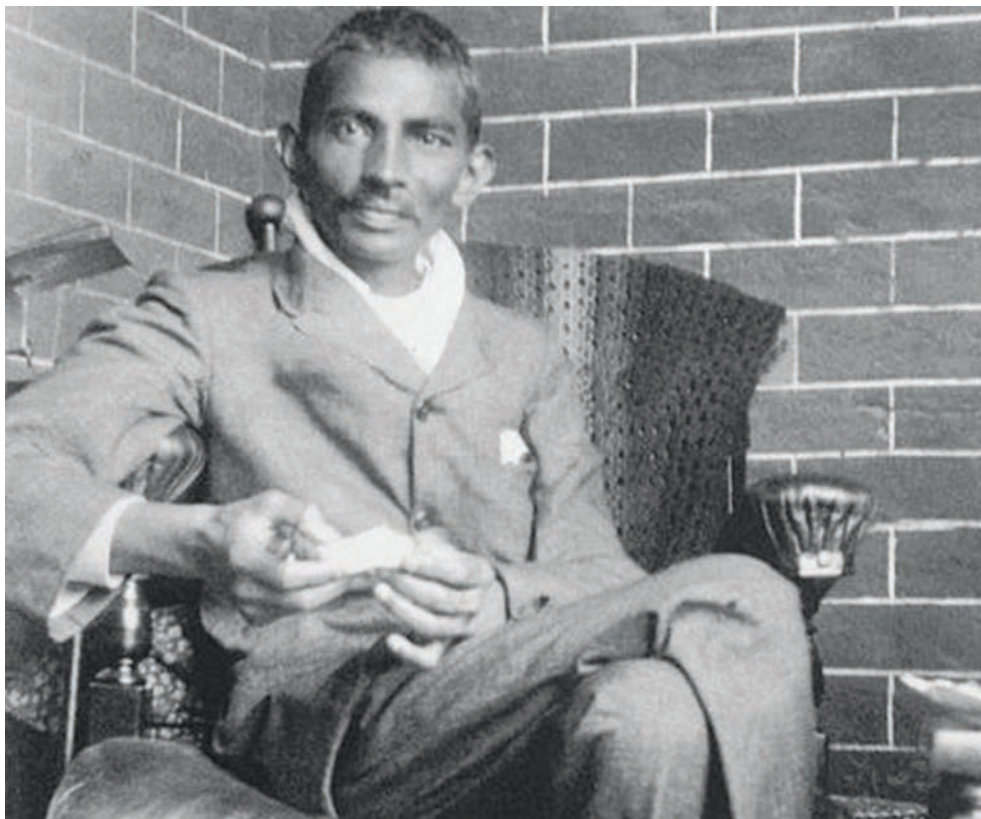
Although Gandhi was interested in becoming a doctor, his father hoped he would also become a government minister and steered him to enter the legal profession. In 1888, 18-year-old Gandhi sailed for London, England, to study law. The young Indian struggled with the transition to Western culture.

Upon returning to India in 1891, Gandhi learned that his mother had died just weeks earlier. He struggled to gain his footing as a lawyer. In his first courtroom case, a nervous Gandhi blanked when the time came to cross-examine a witness. He immediately fled the courtroom after reimbursing his client for his legal fees.

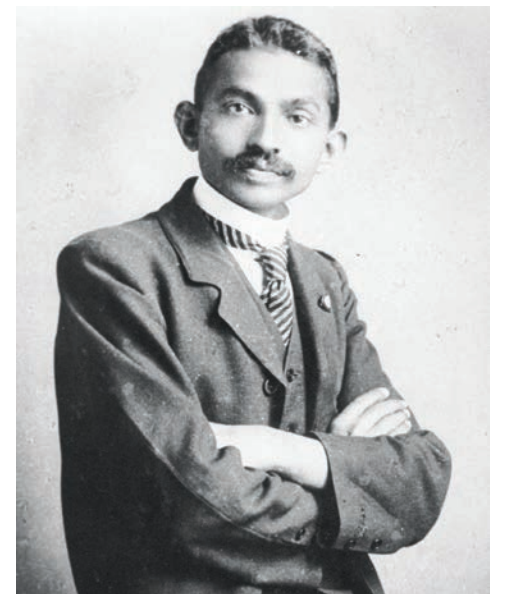
Gandhi's Religion and Beliefs

Gandhi grew up worshipping the Hindu god Vishnu and following Jainism, a morally rigorous ancient Indian religion that espoused non-violence, fasting, meditation and vegetarianism.

During Gandhi's first stay in London, from 1888 to 1891, he became more committed to a meatless diet, joining the executive committee of the London Vegetarian Society, and started to read a variety of sacred texts to learn more about world religions.



Gandhi in Johannesburg, South Africa, February 1908.



Living in South Africa, Gandhi continued to study world religions. "The religious spirit within me became a living force," he wrote of his time there. He immersed himself in sacred Hindu spiritual texts and adopted a life of simplicity, austerity, fasting and celibacy that was free of material goods.

Gandhi in South Africa

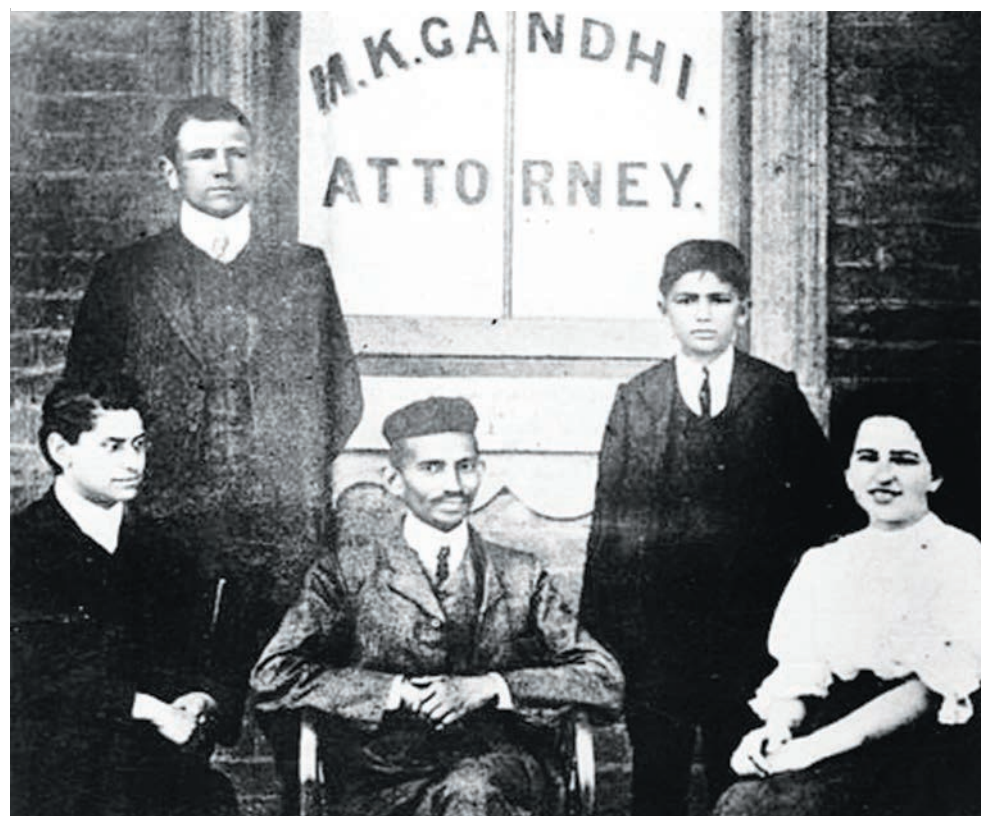
After struggling to find work as a lawyer in India, Gandhi obtained a one-year contract to perform legal services in South Africa. In April 1893, he sailed for Durban in the South African state of Natal.

When Gandhi arrived in South Africa, he was quickly appalled by the discrimination and racial segregation faced by Indian immigrants at the hands of white British and Boer authorities. Upon his first appearance in a Durban courtroom, Gandhi was asked to remove his turban. He refused and left the court instead. The Natal Advertiser mocked him in print as "an unwelcome visitor."

Nonviolent Civil Disobedience

A seminal moment occurred on June 7, 1893, during a train trip to Pretoria, South Africa, when a white man objected to Gandhi's presence in the first-class railway compartment, although he had a ticket. Refusing to move to the back of the train, Gandhi was forcibly removed and thrown off the train at a station in Pietermaritzburg.

Gandhi's act of civil disobedience



Gandhi (centre) with his secretary, Miss Sonia Schlesin, and his colleague Mr. Polak in front of his Law Office, Johannesburg, South Africa, 1905.

Continued on Page 6

From Page 5

awoke in him a determination to devote himself to fighting the “deep disease of color prejudice.” He vowed that night to “try, if possible, to root out the disease and suffer hardships in the process.”

From that night forward, the small, unassuming man would grow into a giant force for civil rights. Gandhi formed the Natal Indian Congress in 1894 to fight discrimination.

Gandhi prepared to return to India at the end of his year-long contract until he learned, at his farewell party, of a bill before the Natal Legislative Assembly that would deprive Indians of the right to vote. Fellow immigrants convinced Gandhi to stay and lead the fight against the legislation. Although Gandhi could not prevent the law’s passage, he drew international attention to the injustice.

After a brief trip to India in late 1896 and early 1897, Gandhi returned to South Africa with his wife and children. Gandhi ran a thriving legal practice, and at the outbreak of the Boer War, he raised an all-Indian ambulance corps of 1,100 volunteers to support the British cause, arguing that if Indians expected to have full rights of citizenship in the British Empire, they also needed to shoulder their responsibilities.

Satyagraha

In 1906, Gandhi organized his first mass civil-disobedience campaign, which he called “Satyagraha” (“truth and firmness”), in reaction to the South African Transvaal government’s new restrictions on the rights of Indians, including the refusal to recognize Hindu marriages.

After years of protests, the government imprisoned hundreds of Indians in 1913, including Gandhi. Under pressure, the South African government accepted a compromise negotiated by Gandhi and General Jan Christian Smuts that included recognition of Hindu marriages and the abolition of a poll tax for Indians.

Return to India

When Gandhi sailed from South Africa in 1914 to return home, Smuts wrote, “The saint has left our shores, I sincerely hope forever.” At the outbreak of World War I, Gandhi spent several months in London.

In 1915 Gandhi founded an ashram in Ahmedabad, India, that was open to all castes. Wearing a simple loincloth and shawl, Gandhi lived an austere life devoted to prayer, fasting and



Mahatma Gandhi leading his followers on the famous salt march to break the English Salt Laws.

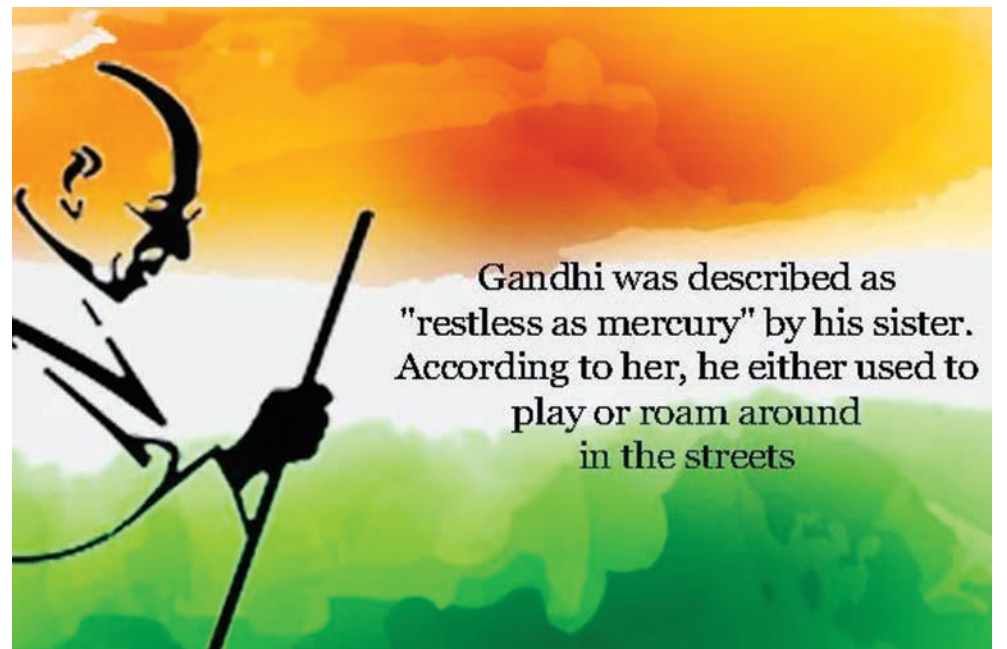
meditation. He became known as “Mahatma,” which means “great soul.”

Opposition to British Rule in India

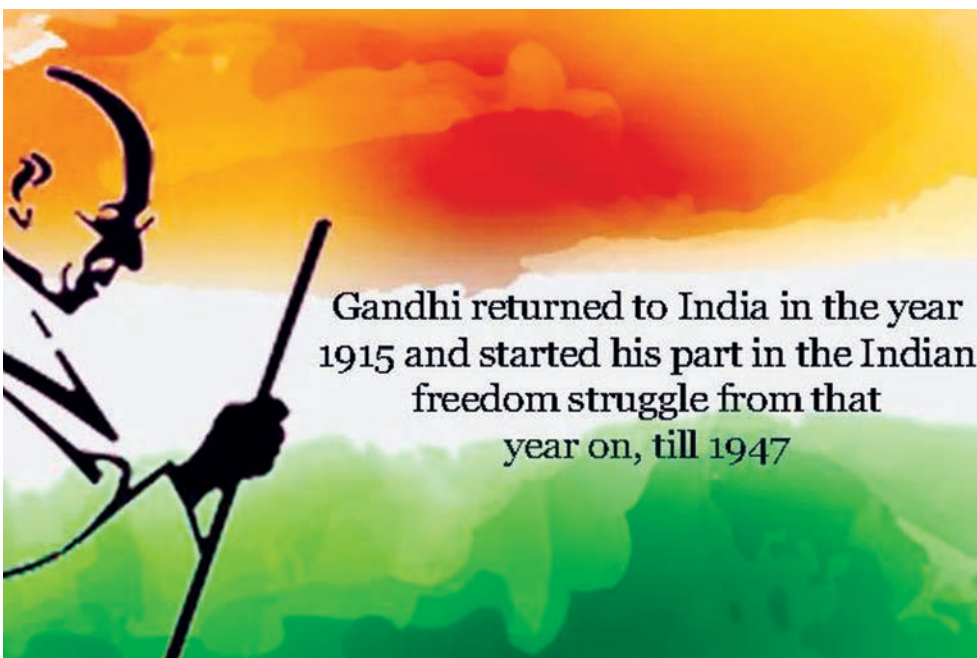
In 1919, with India still under the firm control of the British, Gandhi had a political reawakening when the newly enacted Rowlatt Act authorized British authorities to imprison people suspected of sedition without trial. In response, Gandhi called for a Satyagraha campaign of peaceful protests and strikes.

Violence broke out instead, which culminated on April 13, 1919, in the Massacre of Amritsar. Troops led by British Brigadier General Reginald Dyer fired machine guns into a crowd of unarmed demonstrators and killed nearly 400 people.

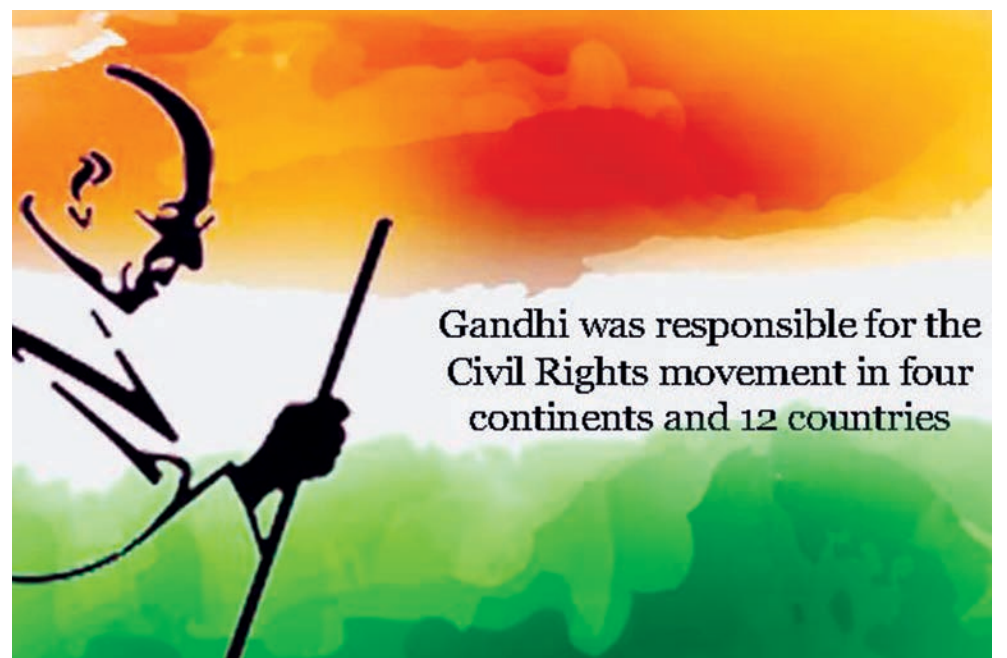
No longer able to pledge allegiance to



Gandhi was described as “restless as mercury” by his sister. According to her, he either used to play or roam around in the streets



Gandhi returned to India in the year 1915 and started his part in the Indian freedom struggle from that year on, till 1947



Gandhi was responsible for the Civil Rights movement in four continents and 12 countries

From Page 6

the British government, Gandhi returned the medals he earned for his military service in South Africa and opposed Britain's mandatory military draft of Indians to serve in World War I.

Gandhi became a leading figure in the Indian home-rule movement. Calling for mass boycotts, he urged government officials to stop working for the Crown, students to stop attending government schools, soldiers to leave their posts and citizens to stop paying taxes and purchasing British goods.

Rather than buy British-manufactured clothes, he began to use a portable spinning wheel to produce his own cloth. The spinning wheel soon became a symbol of Indian independence and self-reliance.

Gandhi assumed the leadership of the Indian National Congress and advocated a policy of non-violence and non-cooperation to achieve home rule.

After British authorities arrested Gandhi in 1922, he pleaded guilty to three counts of sedition. Although sentenced to a six-year imprisonment, Gandhi was released in February 1924 after appendicitis surgery.

He discovered upon his release that relations between India's Hindus and Muslims devolved during his time in jail. When violence between the two religious groups flared again, Gandhi began a three-week fast in the autumn of 1924 to urge unity. He remained away from active politics during much of the latter 1920s.

Gandhi and the Salt March

Gandhi returned to active politics in 1930 to protest Britain's Salt Acts, which not only prohibited Indians from collecting or selling salt—a dietary staple—but imposed a heavy tax that hit the country's poorest particularly hard. Gandhi planned a new Satyagraha campaign, The Salt March, that entailed a 390-kilometer/240-mile march to the Arabian Sea, where he would collect salt in symbolic defiance of the government monopoly.

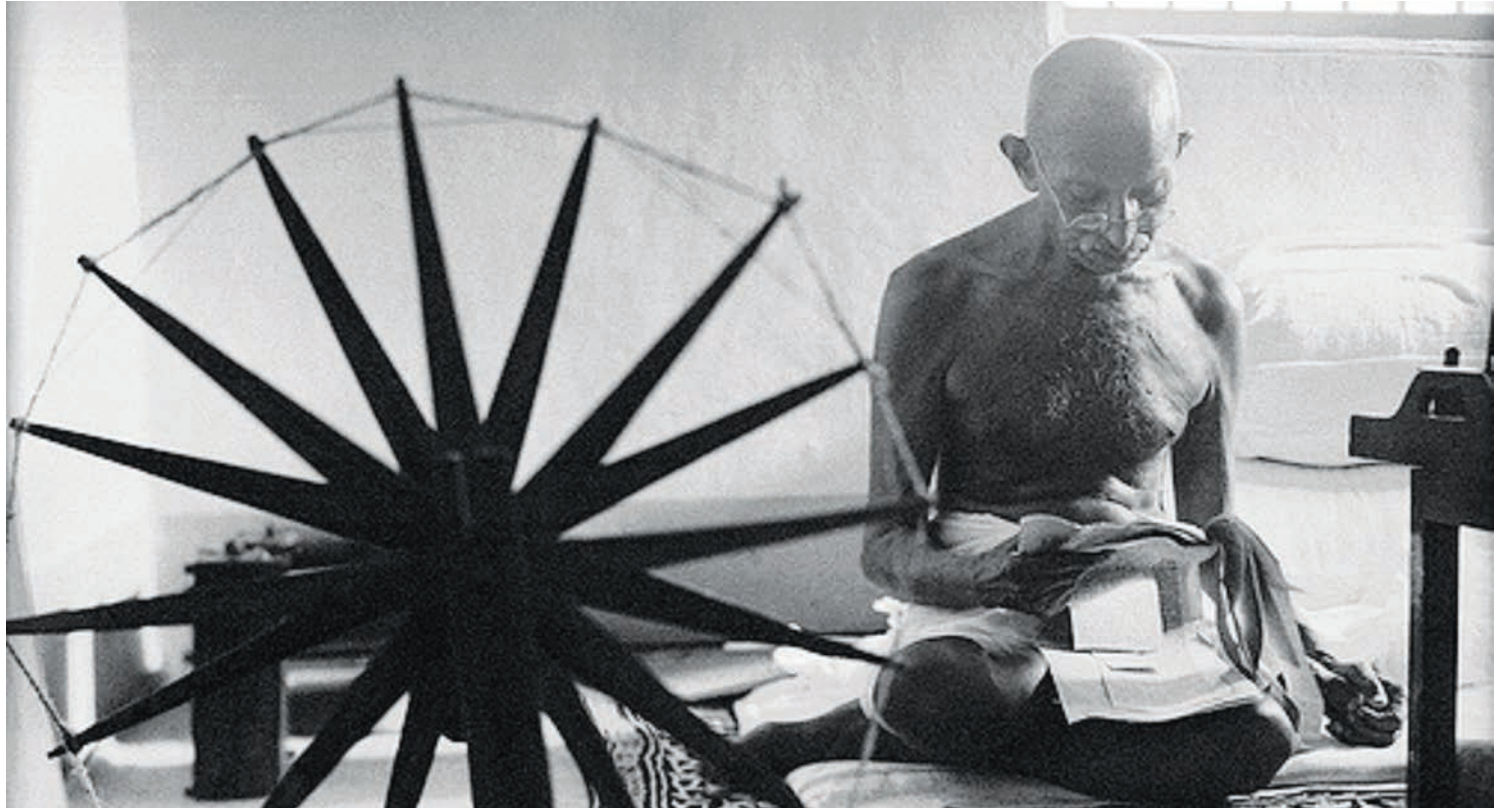
"My ambition is no less than to convert the British people through non-violence and thus make them see the wrong they have done to India," he wrote days before the march to the British viceroy, Lord Irwin.

Wearing a homespun white shawl and sandals and carrying a walking stick, Gandhi set out from his religious retreat in Sabarmati on March 12, 1930, with a few dozen followers. By the time he arrived 24 days later in the coastal town of Dandi, the ranks of the marchers swelled, and Gandhi broke the law by making salt from evaporated seawater.

The Salt March sparked similar protests, and mass civil disobedience swept across India. Approximately 60,000 Indians were jailed for breaking the Salt Acts, including Gandhi, who was imprisoned in May 1930.

Still, the protests against the Salt Acts elevated Gandhi into a transcendent figure around the world. He was named Time magazine's "Man of the Year" for 1930.

Gandhi was released from prison in January 1931, and two months later he made an agreement with Lord Irwin to end the Salt Satyagraha in exchange for concessions that included the release of thousands of political prisoners. The agreement, however, largely kept the Salt Acts intact. But it did give those who lived on the coasts the right to harvest salt from the sea.



Hoping that the agreement would be a stepping-stone to home rule, Gandhi attended the London Round Table Conference on Indian constitutional reform in August 1931 as the sole representative of the Indian National Congress. The conference, however, proved fruitless.

Protesting "Untouchables" Segregation

Gandhi returned to India to find himself imprisoned once again in January 1932 during a crackdown by India's new viceroy, Lord Willingdon. He embarked on a six-day fast to protest the British decision to segregate the "untouchables," those on the lowest rung of India's caste system, by allotting them separate electorates. The public outcry forced the British to amend the proposal.

After his eventual release, Gandhi left the Indian National Congress in 1934, and leadership passed to his protégé Jawaharlal Nehru. He again stepped away from politics to focus on education, poverty and the problems afflicting India's rural areas.

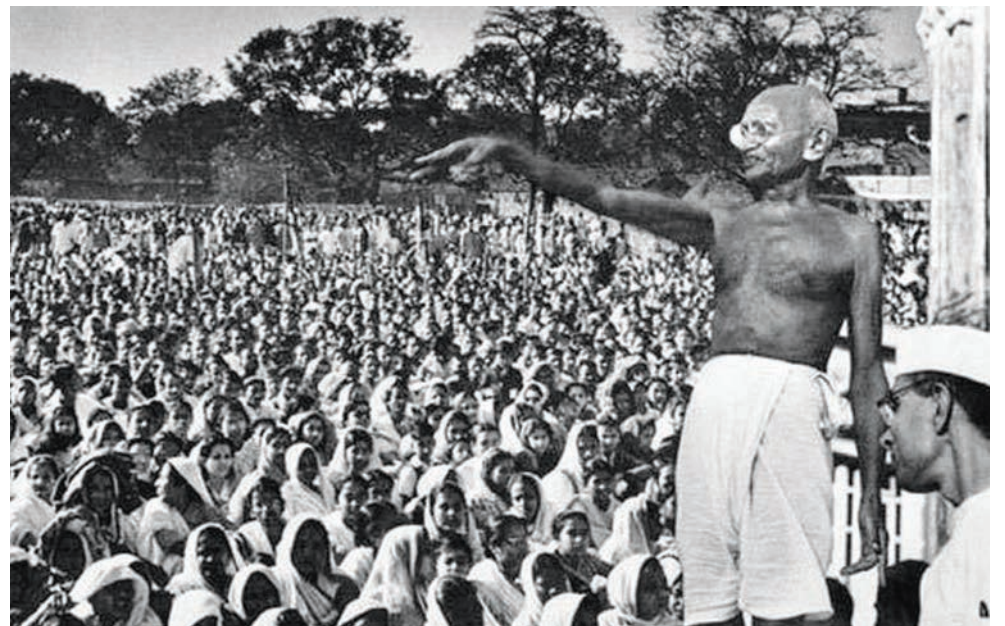
India's Independence from Great Britain

As Great Britain found itself engulfed in World War II in 1942, Gandhi launched the "Quit India" movement that called for the immediate British withdrawal from the country. In August 1942, the British arrested Gandhi, his wife and other leaders of the Indian National Congress and detained them in the Aga Khan Palace in present-day Pune.

"I have not become the King's First Minister in order to preside at the liquidation of the British Empire," Prime Minister Winston Churchill told Parliament in support of the crackdown.

With his health failing, Gandhi was released after a 19-month detainment in 1944.

After the Labour Party defeated Churchill's Conservatives in the British general election of 1945, it began negotiations for Indian independence with the Indian National Congress and Mohammad Ali Jinnah's Muslim League. Gandhi played an active role in the negotiations, but he could not



prevail in his hope for a unified India. Instead, the final plan called for the partition of the subcontinent along religious lines into two independent states—predominantly Hindu India and predominantly Muslim Pakistan.

Violence between Hindus and Muslims flared even before independence took effect on August 15, 1947. Afterwards, the killings multiplied. Gandhi toured riot-torn areas in an appeal for peace and fasted in an attempt to end the bloodshed. Some Hindus, however, increasingly viewed Gandhi as a traitor for expressing sympathy toward Muslims.

Gandhi's Wife and Kids

At the age of 13, Gandhi wed Kasturba Makanji, a merchant's daughter, in an arranged marriage. She died in Gandhi's arms in February 1944 at the age of 74.

In 1885, Gandhi endured the passing of his father and shortly after that the death of his young baby.

In 1888, Gandhi's wife gave birth to the first of four surviving sons. A second son was born in India 1893. Kasturba gave birth to two more sons while living in South Africa, one in 1897 and one in 1900.

Assassination of Mahatma Gandhi

On January 30, 1948, 78-year-old

Gandhi was shot and killed by Hindu extremist Nathuram Godse, who was upset at Gandhi's tolerance of Muslims.

Weakened from repeated hunger strikes, Gandhi clung to his two grandnieces as they led him from his living quarters in New Delhi's Birla House to a late-afternoon prayer meeting. Godse knelt before the Mahatma before pulling out a semiautomatic pistol and shooting him three times at point-blank range. The violent act took the life of a pacifist who spent his life preaching nonviolence.

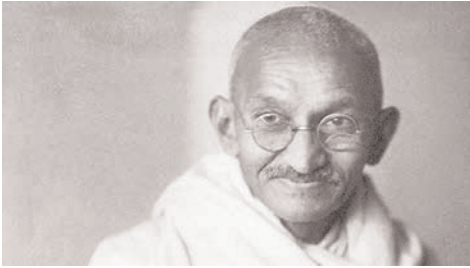
Godse and a co-conspirator were executed by hanging in November 1949. Additional conspirators were sentenced to life in prison.

Legacy

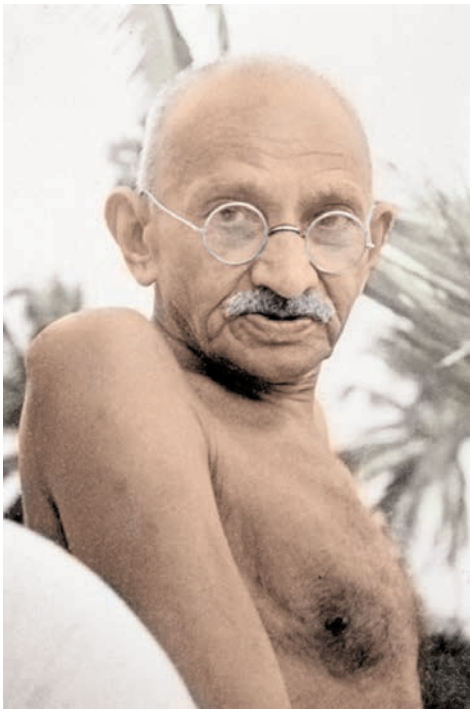
Even after Gandhi's assassination, his commitment to nonviolence and his belief in simple living — making his own clothes, eating a vegetarian diet and using fasts for self-purification as well as a means of protest — have been a beacon of hope for oppressed and marginalized people throughout the world.

Satyagraha remains one of the most potent philosophies in freedom struggles throughout the world today. Gandhi's actions inspired future human rights movements around the globe, including those of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. in the United States and Nelson Mandela in South Africa.

REMEMBERING THE FATHER OF THE INDIAN NATION ON HIS 152ND BIRTH ANNIVERSARY



Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi aka Bapu- the Father of the Indian Nation was born on 2nd October 1869



Billions of Indians identified themselves with the scantily covered Mahatma Gandhi

Mahatma Gandhi and the Indian Freedom Movement

"IT HAS BEEN MY EXPERIENCE, LIVING AND WORKING WITH GANDHIJI THAT WHAT HE ACHIEVED BY HIS SATYAGRAHA APPEARED AT THE TIME TO BE SMALL BUT THE REST WAS SUBSEQUENTLY ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH THE COMBINATION OF VARIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES. IT IS ALSO TRUE THAT IF THE FIRST SMALL STEP HAD NOT BEEN TAKEN BY GANDHIJI THE OTHER FORCES THAT BROUGHT ABOUT THE FINAL RESULT MIGHT HAVE REMAINED DORMANT FOR A LONG TIME". - ACHARYA KRIPLANI

change. Satyagraha demands public spirit, self-sacrifice, organization, endurance and discipline for its successful operation.

Three pillars of Satyagraha

1. Sat implies openness, honesty and fairness.
2. Ahimsa- non-injury is refusal to inflict injury to others. Ahimsa is an expression of our concern that our own and other's humanity be manifested and respected; and we must learn to genuinely love our opponents in order to practice Ahimsa.
3. Tapasya - willingness for self-sacrifice:

A Satyagrahi (one who practices Satyagraha) must be willing to shoulder any sacrifice which is occasioned by the struggle which they have initiated, rather than pushing such sacrifice or suffering onto their opponent. The goal is to discover a wider vista of truth and justice, not to achieve victory over the opponent.

NON-COOPERATION- 1920-22

The weapon of Non-cooperation was designed and developed in order to further the inter-related aims of inculcating Satyagraha among as many Indian social groups as possible. The reaction of the British to this unusual non-violent struggle was best summed up by the then Governor of Bombay, George Llyod: "Gandhi gave us a scare. Gandhi's was the most colossal experiment in world history, and it came within an inch of succeeding. "The first experiment with non-violent direct action on a national scale suffered an abortive end. Although it failed to obtain its immediate objective, it was immensely successful in awakening India to the consciousness of her own potential power. Moreover, the experience gathered during the non-cooperation movement paved the way for India's next great movement of 1930.

CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMENT - 1930-1934

The radical youth groups and the labor organizations were not convinced of the compelling power of non-violent direct action. However, the ideology of Satyagraha aroused widespread academic interest and discussion. The conspicuous success of the Bardoli Satyagraha of 1928 had already infused new hope in the people and

revived a general confidence in Gandhi's method. The absence of any Indian representative on the Simon commission drew the Liberal and the Moderate elements to the Congress fold. It clearly appeared that the nation was again full of all energy and enthusiasm.

Gandhi decided to initiate Civil Disobedience movement by a dramatic breach of the salt law. This was a law which affected all and for many years, Gandhi had considered taxation on one of the vital needs like salt to be an immoral law. The incidence of tax was a symbol of human oppression and through this little gesture Gandhi transcended the limitation of human condition.

After a full year of struggle, the Government gave in and began negotiations with the Congress high command. Gandhi and the members of the working committee of the Congress were released and Gandhi was invited to Delhi.

For the first time in history on March 5, 1931, the representative of His Majesty signed a treaty with Gandhi. The main demands of the people were granted in the treaty, thereafter, known as the "Gandhi-Irwin Pact act" and the stage was set for further negotiations with a view to evolving of Free India.

But then he found his pact with Irwin violated by the Government. He also discovered that the bureaucracy was in a belligerent mood and did not mean to carry out the terms of the Pact. Thereupon Gandhi was forced to revive Satyagraha.

THE QUIT INDIA MOVEMENT

The Second World War was real life and death struggle for the British people. In the year 1940-41 they made their last heroic stand as a world power. Gandhi's revulsion from the great slaughter and desire for the universal peace and his hostility to the raj further soured his relations with the British rulers.

Then Gandhi initiated the Individual Civil Disobedience movement, which was undertaken for the vindication of Freedom of Speech. Individuals carefully chosen by Gandhi himself were instructed to move from place to place on foot, explain to the people the implications of the formula.

Sir Stafford Cripps with an offer of political settlement met the political leaders. The terms were however found unacceptable by all parties with the result that Cripps returned to England, disappointed. Soon after this event, Gandhi received a cable from England, in reply to which he gave expression, for

the first time, to the demand for British withdrawal as an immediate necessity.

The city of Bombay, after experiencing



Gandhi was a charismatic leader who was loved and respected. A sea of humanity poured in to catch a glimpse of him and listen to his words

an unusual wave of jubilation and fighting fervor, lay in the quiet of the exhausted in the early hours of August 9, 1942. On the previous day, Gandhi had electrified the masses attending the momentous August 8th meeting of the AICC by unequivocally demanding that the British should Quit India. His slogan was "Do or Die". Gandhi however, cautioned his followers that it would be weeks before a civil disobedience could be launched.

Although more than 60,000 people were arrested, 18,000 kept in prison while 940 were shot dead and about 1630 injured by firing, the people's violence was limited to objects which were considered to belong to Government, and it did not extend any further. There might have been defeat, but the people's forces had succeeded in recovering and preserving their morale and this was no small gain. "The British Empire is a Satanic System and I have dedicated my life to destroy it" Gandhiji declared.

CONCLUSION

To conclude in the memorable words of Acharya Kriplani, the lifelong colleague of Gandhi, as a fitting tribute to the efficacy of Gandhi's unique weapon of Satyagraha: "It has been my experience, living and working with Gandhiji that what he achieved by his Satyagraha appeared at the time to be small but the rest was subsequently accomplished through the combination of various circumstances. It is also true that if the first small step had not been taken by Gandhiji the other forces that brought about the final result might have remained dormant for a long time."

(Compiled by Rajendar Dichpally and his colleagues. Mr. Dichpally is a General Secretary of Indian Overseas Congress USA. He can be reached at dichpally@aol.com)

The British Empire's most talented and Powerful pro-consul in India, Lord Curzon has said, "India is the pivot of our British empire. If the Empire loses any other part of its, we can survive, but if we lose India, the sun of our Empire will set."

Even Churchill said, "the loss of India would mark and consummate the downfall of the British empire from such a catastrophe there should be no recovery." One can understand how difficult it was to secure Independence from dominion of Britishers.

Gandhi's advent and Rise:

1919 was a twilight year in the history of Indo-British relations. The harsh Rowlett act met with Universal opposition in the Imperial legislative council and outside. Gandhi was challenged with such a situation. There was the Jallianwala Bag massacre. An armed rebellion was out of question in a country forcibly disarmed and deliberately emasculated for about a century. Gandhi changed this situation into an opportunity.

The unique weapon

1. The strategy of Satyagraha i.e., non-violent direct action was preferred by Gandhi.
2. This strategy of Satyagraha is no oriental mystic doctrine baffling the oriental mind but a hardheaded mass pressure technique to ensure social, political and economic

The Quad could end up running out of steam



BY HAPPYMON JACOB

IT HAS TOO MANY ITEMS ON ITS AGENDA, AND WITH THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF AUKUS, FACES THE DANGER OF BECOMING A TALK SHOP



: The in-person Quad summit at the White House, September 24, 2021.

Coming on the eve of the first in-person Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) summit in Washington DC, the new Australia-U.K.-U.S. (AUKUS) trilateral security partnership appears to be sending a subtle message to the Quad: shape up or become irrelevant. The announcement of the AUKUS and the recent outcome of the Quad summit indicates that AUKUS will go on to form a key security arrangement of the Indo-Pacific region, thereby potentially forcing the Quad to recede to the background in a struggle for attention, political will, and resources. But before we get to the implications of AUKUS on the Quad, let us briefly examine how AUKUS is also useful to the Quad.

A reassurance to allies

Still reeling under intense international criticism in the way the United States withdrew its forces from Afghanistan resulting in a humanitarian disaster, AUKUS seeks to unambiguously signal U.S. President Joe Biden's commitment to U.S. allies especially in the Indo-Pacific.

In some ways, AUKUS helps reassure its allies of the U.S.'s security commitments and underlines Washington's pivot to the Indo-Pacific. Second, the deal and particularly the sharing of American nuclear submarine technology with Australia will help Canberra overcome past hesitations about taking on China with more conviction. Third, notwithstanding the point that AUKUS may set alarm bells ringing for the Quad, AUKUS is still a shot in the arm for the larger Indo-Pacific agenda of which India, the U.S., Japan, Australia, among others, are key partners. In other words, AUKUS will help the Quad's declared aim of keeping the Indo-Pacific region free, open and inclusive thereby contributing to its core agenda.

No replacement, but...

AUKUS may not replace the Quad and yet it appears that AUKUS has ventured where the Quad has been reluctant to make forays into - the military domain. More so, AUKUS also exposes the inherent, also self-imposed, limits of the Quad, i.e., its inability and lack of desire to give itself any military role. The focus of the recently held Washington summit, on challenges ranging from COVID-19 to climate shows that the Quad is unlikely to take a security-dominated turn; that is precisely the vacuum AUKUS seeks to fill.

The larger question then is whether the Quad is losing its steam. For sure, the Quad seems to offer no clear purpose which, as a result, leads to too many

items crowding the agenda. It neither has a secretariat or a charter, like the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), nor a clear set of activities such as AUKUS. The ever-growing list of focal areas of the Quad will eventually make it a less than useful deliberative forum.

Put differently, with too many items on its agenda, the Quad faces the danger of becoming a talk shop with very little actual work. What is ironic is that all the Quad members have security/military considerations in mind vis-à-vis China while engaging the Quad platform, but no one seems to be keen on framing it in such a manner, as is evidenced by the summit's joint statement (North Korea and Myanmar find mention in the statement though, not China). There is little interest in properly institutionalizing the Quad nor has the objective for 'Quad Plus' been purposefully pursued.

Let me put this somewhat differently: Indo-Pacific remains a grand strategic vision, AUKUS has the potential to become a major military/security arrangement in the Indo-Pacific, and the Quad/Quad Plus could end up becoming a talk shop within the Indo-Pacific.

New Delhi's hesitations

New Delhi has taken the stand that "there is no link between the AUKUS and the Quad" just as it had argued earlier that there is no link between the Malabar naval exercises and the Quad even though the Quad membership is replicated in the Malabar exercises and two-thirds of the AUKUS form 50% of the Quad.

Technically, New Delhi's stand is accurate - just because there is a striking similarity in the membership of these forums, they are not the same institutional architecture. And yet, if one were to go beyond such technicalities, it is evident that these groupings share a larger vision about the Indo-Pacific, i.e., addressing the

challenge from China, and the desire for an open and free Indo-Pacific. Be it AUKUS, which enables Australia to stand up to Chinese bullying or provides the United Kingdom - its aircraft carrier, HMS Queen Elizabeth, the flagship of the U.K.'s Carrier Strike Group, is in the region - with a more prominent, and desirable, role in the Indo-Pacific or the annual Malabar exercises which focus on the Indo-Pacific or the Quad, their common geopolitical theatre is the Indo-Pacific. So, while they are not technically related to each other, there is a broader reality that unites them all. There is no point in refusing to accept that self-evident reality.

There is also little doubt today that the Indo-Pacific is of great importance to India for a number of reasons. For one, given the continental challenges it faces including from the new developments in Afghanistan, New Delhi would do well to shift some attention to the maritime sphere. Second, at a time when India is continentally pressed against a rock and a hard place, an opportunity has presented itself for India - in the form of growing global interest in the Indo-Pacific - to be at the center of a new geopolitical churning which it must make use of for its own security and prosperity. Third, it is also a major way of bringing together like-minded states to check Chinese hegemony in the region.

Given this context, if AUKUS potentially overshadows the enthusiasm around the Quad, it would be disadvantageous to India's interests in the Indo-Pacific region. Other Quad counties are either on the AUKUS or are alliance partners; India is neither. Eventually, therefore, the Quad faces the potential challenge of becoming a talking shop without an actionable mandate. More so, bereft of any defense arrangement, the material returns from the Quad over time would also be minimal.

Indo-Pacific engagement

This situation is made worse by India's hesitation about joining major regional economic frameworks. India, for instance, is neither a member of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership nor can its trade relations with the Indo-Pacific countries rival those of China. So, given our rather weak economic influence and performance in the Indo-Pacific region, what might help the country is being part of a security arrangement which can take care of its regional defense/security concerns. Even before AUKUS, India's current engagement of the Indo-Pacific was neither capable of contributing to its national security nor promoting its economic influence in the region. And now, AUKUS may have further shrunk the potential space available for the Quad, and India, to play a serious role in the region's security architecture.

Sources of India's hesitations

Even though it is not just New Delhi which is hesitant about the Quad venturing into the security/military domain, India has been hesitant about the Quad moving beyond the non-military issues. So, what are the sources of New Delhi's hesitation regarding a robust role for the Quad in the security/military domain? One could advance two hypotheses in this regard. One, India's traditional reluctance about military alliances and the desire to maintain strategic autonomy. New Delhi fears that militarizing the Quad could undo this jealously guarded tradition. It is, however, possible to explore military utility for the Quad without making it a formal military alliance. More so, exploring mutually beneficial military and security cooperation within the Quad framework need not contradict the principles of strategic autonomy. The operative part of 'strategic autonomy' is autonomy, not strategic.

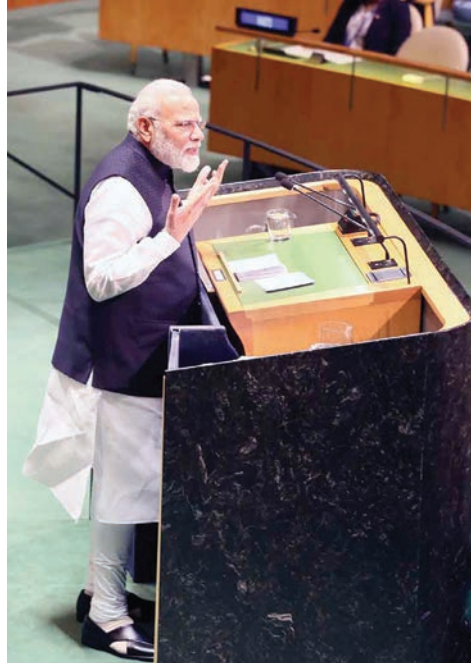
The second hypothesis has to do with domestic political considerations: The Narendra Modi government is keen to avoid any military overtones for the Quad due to potential Chinese reactions to it. Recall how India and Australia had for many years soft peddled the forum for fear of provoking China. Australia seems to have overcome its hesitation, but has India done so? For the Bharatiya Janata Party-led government, any heat on the Line of Actual Control with China in the run-up to crucial State elections next year and then the 2024 parliamentary election would be unwelcome. This seems, therefore, to be a case of domestic political considerations trumping the pursuit of strategic necessities.

(The author teaches at the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi and is the founder of the Council for Strategic and Defense Research)

WILL PAKISTAN'S NUCLEAR STOCKPILE BE THE REGION'S ACHILLES HEEL?

"SOME NON-NUCLEAR STATES HAVE HISTORICALLY OPPOSED THE RESOLUTION IN RESPONSE TO INDIA TESTING NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND BECOMING A NUCLEAR-ARMED STATE IN 1998. INDIA CAN AND NEEDS TO DO MORE TO GET COUNTRIES TO RECONSIDER THEIR OPPOSITION, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF TALIBAN'S TAKEOVER OF AFGHANISTAN THAT HAS ALREADY LED TO RISE IN INDIA-PAKISTAN TENSIONS.

"WHILE THERE ARE ENOUGH PUNDITS PREDICTING THAT TALIBAN AND PAKISTAN WILL MAKE FOR THE MOST VOLATILE BEDFELLOWS, THERE IS NO DENYING THAT THE REGION'S POWER DYNAMICS HAVE BEEN DRAMATICALLY AND DRASTICALLY ALTERED. A CHANGE THAT HAS TAKEN EVERYONE BY SURPRISE ONLY GOES TO SHOW THAT NOTHING CAN BE RULED OUT. SO, SPEAKING OF PAKISTAN'S NUCLEAR STOCKPILE FALLING IN THE HANDS OF TALIBAN IS NOT AS FAR-FETCHED AS ONE WOULD IMAGINE."



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has repeatedly raised doubts about Pakistan's intentions

Photograph / Jay Mandal- on assignment



Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan is unmoved

Photograph / Jay Mandal- on assignment

BY PRIYANKA KHANNA

The predictable India-Pakistan rhetoric during the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York and accusations flying right and left at the ongoing 48th session of the Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in Geneva are shadowing the simmering worry as to what will happen to Pakistan's growing nuclear arsenal.

The 140-150 nuclear warheads that are currently stockpiled in Pakistan's central storage facilities in its southern part remain outside both the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of nuclear weapons (NPT) and the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT).

With the Afghanistan takeover by Taliban and given their bon homie with Pakistan, especially its intelligence, it is singularly worrying that Pakistan is the sole country that is blocking negotiations of the Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty (FMCT).

While there are enough pundits predicting that Taliban and Pakistan



The UN is not doing enough to push Pakistan to undertake disarmament - Photograph / Jay Mandal- on assignment

will make for the most volatile bedfellows, there is no denying that the region's power dynamics have been dramatically and drastically altered. A change that has taken everyone by surprise only goes to show that nothing can be ruled out. So, speaking of Pakistan's nuclear stockpile falling in the hands of Taliban is not as far-fetched as one would imagine.

Which brings us to the question of why the UN is not doing enough to push Pakistan to undertake disarmament. In fact, according to the advocacy group - Unfold Zero - the UNGA was not even able to come together on nuclear disarmament resolutions. In the last nuclear disarmament UN meeting, nuclear risk-reduction was perhaps the only measure countries could come together for.

A resolution reducing nuclear danger submitted by India received 127 votes in favor (mostly non-aligned countries). It failed to get support of nuclear-armed or European countries, primarily because it only calls for nuclear risk reduction measures by China, France, Russia, UK and USA - leaving out the other nuclear armed States - India, Pakistan, DPRK and Israel, according to unfoldzero.org.

A resolution on decreasing the operational readiness of nuclear weapons systems submitted by a group of non-nuclear countries, was much more successful receiving 173 votes in favor, including from most of the NATO countries and from four nuclear armed States (China, DPRK, India, Pakistan).

A resolution on the Treaty on the Prohibition nuclear weapons (TPNW) was supported by 122 countries. This is more than the number who have signed the Treaty, which is 68 (with 19 of these countries having now ratified). The vote indicates that more signatures are likely. However, the resolution was not supported by any of the nuclear-armed countries, nor any of the countries under nuclear deterrence relationships,



India's External Affairs Minister has voiced India's concern about Pakistan's stockpile of nuclear weapons to the world, including the Secretary General of the United Nations, António Guterres

Photograph / Jay Mandal- on assignment

i.e., NATO, Australia, Japan, South Korea. The opposition of nuclear-armed and allied States to the resolution is another indication that they do not intend to join the new treaty. In general, this means that they will not be bound by the treaty's obligations. However, the customary law against the use of nuclear weapons which is re-affirmed by the treaty will apply to all States regardless of whether or not they join.

A resolution on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons submitted by India received 120 votes in favor, including from themselves and another three nuclear-armed States (China, DPRK and Pakistan). Some non-nuclear States have historically opposed the resolution in response to India testing nuclear weapons and becoming a nuclear-armed State in 1998. India can and needs to do more to get countries to reconsider their opposition, especially in light of Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan that has already led to rise in India-Pakistan tensions.

The author is a journalist. She can be reached at khanna.priyanka@gmail.com

GOPIO



Virginia

Proudly Presents:

Award of Excellence Banquet

Celebration of 10th Anniversary & Gandhi Jayanti

When: Sunday, October 3rd, 2021 | 6 to 9 PM

Where: Bombay Tandoor

8603 Westwood Center Dr. Vienna, VA 2218

Special Guest: Congressman Gerry Connolly

Congressman Don Beyer

Amb. H.E. Purmanund Jhugroo

State & local Leaders & More

Congratulations to all Award of Excellence recipients

Dr. V.K Raju (Medicine)

DR. Vikram Raya (Entrepreneur)

Dr. Ram Gupta (Education)

Dr. Korok Ray (Innovation & Research)

Prof. Indrajit S. Saluja (Journalism)

Nilima Mehra (Media)

Vinita Tiwari (Arts & Culture)

Janetha Kancharla (Philanthropy)

President **Jay Bhandari** & Executive Committee

ERIC ADAMS UNVEILS RESILIENCY PLAN FOR NEW YORK CITY

CONEY ISLAND, NY (TIP): Democratic mayoral nominee Eric Adams, on September 24, unveiled his resiliency plan for New York City to address the rising threat of climate change to New Yorkers' safety, underlined by the destruction and loss of life caused by the remnants of Hurricane Ida earlier this month. He was joined by local elected officials and resiliency advocates outside Haber Houses, a NYCHA senior development in Coney Island that is one of more than two dozen public housing sites citywide still rebuilding from Hurricane Sandy.

Adams's plan, developed in consultation with leading resiliency advocates and experts, focuses on keeping New Yorkers physically and financially safe from climate events - in the short-term and in the future - as well as shoring up the city's ability to thrive and grow long-term through the adverse effects of climate change.



"Our focus can no longer solely be on climate change prevention; it must also be on the interventions we need right now to warn, educate, and insulate New Yorkers from damage and death." - Eric Adams

You can view the full plan at <https://www.scribd.com/document/527292110/The-Adams-Resiliency-Plan-for-NYC>

"Coney Island and other marginalized

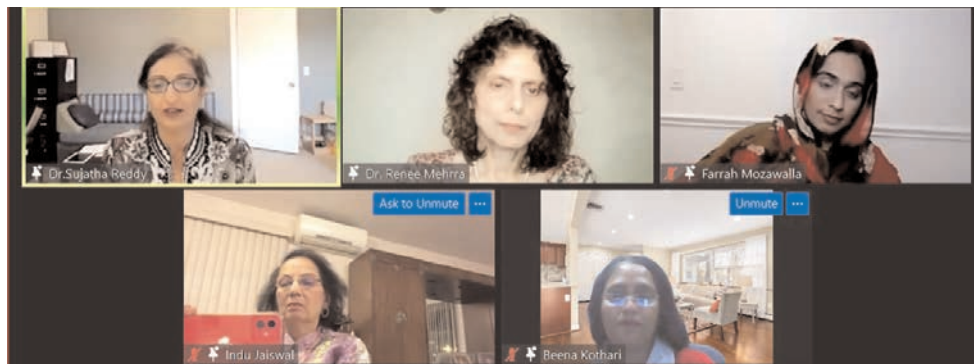
communities in New York knew the hard truth before many in this city: Climate change is here. Making New York City more resilient and protecting our people from extreme weather is not some far-off

consequence of the things we do today-it is an urgent public safety issue, right now. As the flooding from Ida underlined with devastating effect, our focus can no longer solely be on climate change prevention; it must also be on the interventions we need right now to warn, educate, and insulate New Yorkers from damage and death," Brooklyn Borough President Adams said. "We must be bold and ambitious. We need a City government that protects future generations while taking care of those most in need right now-especially those lower-income communities and communities of color who are most impacted by climate change, and who will benefit the most from investments in resiliency that create green jobs. With preparedness and protection, we can create the New York City we want to live in - and we want our grandchildren to live in - while becoming an example for the world. That is the mission powering my resiliency plan."

Virtual Interactive discussion on coping with grief and loss during the Pandemic

LONG ISLAND, NY (TIP): On September 24th evening, members of IAF and community leaders joined the ZOOM Call for a special interactive discussion on an important topic that affects most of us at some point in our lives. Distinguished panelists, moderators, and elite members of the Indian American community filled up the screens, all gathered for one singular purpose - to be the part of, and to understand and accept the different ways of coping with grief and sorrow especially during the Pandemic.

The program was hosted by eminent broadcaster, civic leader, community activist, and member, Board of Directors of the American Association of Ayurvedic Professionals, Dr. Renee Mehrra, and Beena Kothari, President of GOPIO, NY. Beena Kothari gave the welcome address. IAF (Indian American



Clockwise: Dr Sujatha Reddy, Director of Ayurveda, Licensed Mental Health Counselor, Dr Renee Mehrra, Broadcaster, Civic Leader, Board of Directors of American Association of Ayurveda Professionals, Ms. Farrah Mozzawala, Executive Director of Office of Asian American Affairs, Nassau County, Indu Jaiswal RDN CDN Chair IAF, Beena Kothari Executive Member IAF

Forum) led by its dynamic chairperson, Mrs. Indu Jaiswal spoke about the importance of organizing such important sessions to create an awareness of mental health issues.

Nassau County Executive Director

Office of Asian American Affairs, Farrah Mozzawala spoke about the social and mental health services and counseling offered by the county in different languages to families affected during the pandemic and encouraged the

attendees to reach out to her office for any assistance needed by the community. She also stated that there were services and resources available for the elderly in senior centers.

The second presenter was Dr Sujatha Reddy of Humanelly Lakewood Wellness Center, Doctor of Ayurveda, Licensed Mental Health Counselor, Yoga and Meditation coach. Dr. Reddy discussed various techniques and holistic strategies for coping with grief and loss. Dr Renee Mehrra was the coordinator of this special program for IAF.

It was a very good interactive session followed with Questions and answers and comments from the Community Leaders. Indu Jaiswal thanked the Distinguished Panelist for their valuable contributions in the Field of Mental Health, Helping the Community and meeting the social and Mental needs of the Community. Also special thanks to Dr Renee Mehrra and Mrs Beena Kothari for organizing such an important session.

(Based on a press release)

Nassau County Early Voting Locations, Time Announced



EARLY VOTING STARTING ON OCT. 23

MINEOLA, NY (TIP): Ahead of Election Day on Nov. 2, Nassau County residents will have nine additional days to head to the polls.

Starting on Oct. 23, voters can choose from 17 locations to cast their ballots during early voting.

The dates and times are as under: -

Oct. 23: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Oct. 24: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Oct. 25: 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Oct. 26-28: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Oct. 29: 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Oct. 30: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Oct. 31: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The locations for early voting are as under:

Elmont Public Library
Freeport Recreation Center
Gayle Community Center (Roslyn Heights)
St. Paul's Recreation Center (Garden City)
Glen Cove City Hall
Great Neck Village Hall
Hempstead Recreation Center / Kennedy Park
Levittown Hall
Lawrence Country Club
Long Beach City Hall

Massapequa Town Hall South
Plainview Mid-Island Y JCC
Rockville Centre Recreation Center
Valley Stream Presbyterian Church
West Hempstead Public Library
St. Frances de Chantal Church (Wantagh)
Nassau County Board of Elections (Mineola)

Nassau County residents who are eligible to vote can use any of the early voting sites except on Nov. 2, when they must vote at their assigned polling location.

25 Indian students to get Quad STEM Fellowship sponsored by private donors

WASHINGTON, DC (TIP): President Joe Biden has unveiled an inspiring initiative that will enable 100 students from the Quad nations, including India, to pursue advanced degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) at leading US universities.

Biden convened the first in-person meeting of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) at the White House Friday, September 24, bringing together Prime Ministers Narendra Modi of India, Scott Morrison of Australia and Yoshihide Suga of Japan.

The Quad group - US, India, Australia and Japan - is made up of democratic countries that share a worldview and have a common vision of the future which includes countering the belligerent actions of China.

Addressing the Quad Leaders Summit in the elegant East Room of the White House, Biden announced that the multilateral forum is "launching a new Quad Fellowship for students from each of our Quad countries to pursue advanced degrees in leading STEM programs here in the United States. It represents an investment in the leaders, innovators, and pioneers of tomorrow."

The Fellowship, sponsored by private donors, will bring 25 students from each Quad country every year to pursue either a master's or doctoral degree at a leading STEM graduate university in the United States.

It is stewarded by Schmidt Futures, a philanthropic initiative, with generous



President Biden at the first in-person meeting of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) at the White House Friday, September 24, unveiled an initiative that will enable 100 students from the Quad nations to pursue advanced degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) at leading US universities.

support from Accenture, Blackstone, Boeing, Google, Mastercard, and Western Digital.

The major fellowship "will bring students from India, from Japan, from Australia, and the United States - a hundred in total - over the course of the next year and a half to study in elite universities in the United States, in areas related to science and technology, as a clear signal of the importance of these issues to all of our countries' futures", Biden administration officials said in a call with reporters on the eve of the summit.

"That's a signature initiative designed to indicate that we want and encourage Quad countries to send their best students

to work with us and to build those lines of communication and coordination with young people," the officials said.

The US has issued a record 62,000 visas to Indian students so far in 2021. Some 200,000 Indian students are enrolled in universities across America contributing a whopping \$7.7 billion annually to the US economy.

The Quad Fellowship will offer another avenue for brilliant Indian students to pursue advanced STEM courses here.

The Fulbright Program worldwide has been bringing Americans and Indians closer together for 71 years since its launch in India.

In 2008, India decided to jointly fund the fellowships with the United States and

renamed the program the Fulbright-Nehru Fellowship Program. Till now, over 20,000 fellowships and grants have been awarded under this exchange program.

The Partnership 2020 program is another initiative that continues to foster higher education cooperation to promote economic growth and technological advances.

In collaboration with the University of Nebraska at Omaha, this program funds 15 research partnerships between US and Indian universities in the fields of advanced engineering, artificial intelligence, public health, and energy, among others.

On Friday, at the White House, leaders of the Quad alliance recommitted "to promoting the free, open, rules-based order, rooted in international law and undaunted by coercion, to bolster security and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific and beyond," according to a joint statement released after the talks.

"We are proud to begin a new chapter of educational and people-to-people cooperation as we inaugurate the Quad Fellowship," read the joint statement.

"Through the Quad Fellowship, our next generation of STEM talent will be prepared to lead the Quad and other like-minded partners towards the innovations that will shape our shared future," stated leaders of the Quad partnership.

"We're four major democracies - have a long history of cooperation," Biden said. "We know how to get things done. And we are up to the challenge".

Indians abroad can now buy UK Royal Mint's 1st Goddess Lakshmi gold bar



The UK Royal Mint's first bullion bar range featuring Goddess Lakshmi as a celebration of Diwali went on sale on Tuesday, September 28.

LONDON (TIP): The "Lakshmi" bar, a 20-gm gold bar with the Hindu Goddess of Wealth engraved intricately into the precious metal, was designed by Royal Mint designer Emma Noble and follows a close collaboration with the Shree Swaminarayan Temple in Cardiff on its intricate design.

The bar, retailing at 1,080 pounds, is described by the Royal Mint as reflective of its ongoing commitment to diversity and inclusion and an expansion of diverse cultural celebrations in the country.

(Read full story at

www.theindianpanorama.news)

INDIAN-ORIGIN ORGANIZATION DEDICATED STADIUM IN HOUSTON TO INDIAN AMERICANS WHO ENVISIONED BRINGING CRICKET TO US

HOUSTON (TIP): India House Houston, a non-profit organization based in Texas, has dedicated its grand stadium to Dr Durga and Sushila Agrawal who played a key role towards building the arena that will serve as a place for Indian-Americans to hold sporting and cultural events.

Dr Durga Agrawal, founder and CEO of Piping Technology and Products, is a founder member and current Trustee of India House.

He shared his vision of bringing cricket to the US and creating a center that is inclusive and promotes culture diversity.

As a plaque was unveiled by Agrawal, the stadium lights were turned on illuminating the 5.5-acre ground amidst a thunderous applause from the audience during a ceremony last week, attended by over 100 Indian-Americans, keeping in mind the COVID-19 protocols.

Agrawal has played a prominent role towards building the stadium with his generous donation for the community. The stadium will serve as a place for Indian-Americans to hold sporting and



India House Houston, a non-profit organization based in Texas, has dedicated its grand stadium to Dr Durga and Sushila Agrawal who played a key role towards building the arena that will serve as a place for Indian-Americans to hold sporting and cultural events.

cultural events.

Dr Virendra Mathur, Trustee of India House, spoke about Durga and their friendship, which began all the way from their days in India and their collective vision for India House.

Close to 125 people from the community attended the ceremony and enjoyed a memorable evening filled with live music.

(Read full story at

www.theindianpanorama.news)

SIKH-AMERICAN OFFICER ALLOWED TO WEAR A TURBAN WITH LIMITATIONS MAY SUE: REPORT



First Lieutenant Sukhbir Toor allowed to wear a turban with limitations plans to sue the US Marine Corps if he is not granted full religious accommodation.

NEW YORK (TIP): A 26-year-old Sikh-American officer in the US Marines who has been allowed to wear the turban - the first person in the 246-year history of the elite force allowed to do so - but with a few limitations, plans to sue the Corps if he is not granted full religious accommodation, according to a media report. "Almost every morning for five years, First Lieutenant Sukhbir Toor has pulled on the uniform of the United States

CONTD ON PAGE 38

NASA's Lucy mission to probe Jupiter's mysterious Trojan asteroids

WASHINGTON, DC (TIP): Lucy will launch on October 16 from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station.

NASA is poised to send its first spacecraft to study Jupiter's Trojan asteroids to glean new insights into the solar system's formation 4.5 billion years ago, the space agency said September 28.

The probe, called Lucy after an ancient fossil that provided insights into the evolution of human species, will launch on October 16 from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida.

Its mission is to investigate the group of rocky bodies circling the Sun in two swarms, one preceding Jupiter in its orbital path and the other trailing behind it.

After receiving boosts from Earth's gravity, Lucy will embark on a 12-year

journey to eight different asteroids -- one in the Main Belt between Mars and Jupiter and then seven Trojans.

"Despite the fact that they really are in a very small region of space, they're very physically different from one another," Hal Levison, the mission's principal scientist told reporters, about the Trojan asteroids, which number more than 7,000 in total.

"For example, they have very different colors, some are grey, some are red," he added, with the differences indicating how far away from the Sun they might have formed before assuming their present trajectory.

"Whatever Lucy finds will give us vital clues about the formation of our solar system," added Lori Glaze, director of NASA's planetary science division.

Lucy will fly by its target objects within 250 miles (400 kilometers) of their surfaces and use its onboard instruments and large antenna to investigate their geology, including composition, mass, density and volume.

The ship was built by Lockheed Martin and includes over two miles of wire and solar panels that, placed end-to-end, would be as tall as a five-story building.

It will be the first solar powered to venture this far from the Sun and will observe more asteroids than any other spacecraft before it. The total mission cost is \$981 million.

The researchers who discovered Lucy the fossil in Ethiopia in 1974 named her after the Beatles' song "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds" which they were playing loudly at the expedition camp.



This handout photo courtesy of NASA shows the United Launch Alliance (ULA) Centaur stage for NASA's Lucy mission being lifted by crane into the Vertical Integration Facility near Space Launch Complex 41 at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida on September 16, 2021 - Photo Credit / AFP

Hawaii's Kilauea volcano erupts, lava fountains form in park

WASHINGTON, DC (TIP): Kilauea had a major eruption in 2018 that destroyed more than 700 homes and displaced thousands of residents.

One of the most active volcanos on Earth is erupting on Hawaii's Big Island.

Officials with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) confirmed Wednesday that an eruption has begun in Kilauea volcano's Halemaumau crater at the volcano's summit.

Webcam footage of the crater showed lava fountains covering the floor of the crater and billowing clouds of volcanic gas were rising into the air. The same area has been home to a large lava lake at various times throughout the volcano's eruptive past.

The eruption is not in an area with homes and is entirely contained within Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.

"All signs indicate that it will stay within the crater," said Ken Hon, the USGS scientist in charge of Hawaii Volcano Observatory. "We're not seeing any indications that lava is moving into the lower part of the east rift zone where people live. Currently all the activity is within the park." The volcano's alert level has been raised to "warning" and the

aviation code changed to red.

Earlier Wednesday, officials said increased earthquake activity and ground swelling had been detected, and at that time raised the alert levels accordingly.

Kilauea had a major eruption in 2018 that destroyed more than 700 homes and displaced thousands of residents. Before that eruption, the volcano had been slowly erupting for decades, but mostly not in densely populated residential areas.

Before the major 2018 eruption, Kilauea had been erupting since 1983 and streams of lava occasionally covered rural farms and homes. During that time, the lava sometimes reached the ocean, causing dramatic interactions with the water.

Over four months in 2018, Kilauea spewed enough lava to fill 320,000 Olympic-sized swimming pools, burying an area more than half the size of Manhattan in up to 80 feet (24 meters) of now-hardened lava. The molten rock reduced landmarks, streets and neighborhoods to a vast field of blackened boulders and volcanic shard.

After the 2018 eruption the summit lava lake stopped erupting and for the first time in recorded history began to fill with water, raising concerns about the

possibility of an explosive interaction between lava and groundwater.

The same area of the volcano that began erupting Wednesday also erupted in December and lasted until May.

Mr. Hon said these types of eruptions could be happening for years as the volcano fills up.

"We do know that one thing that happens is that the magma keeps coming into Kilauea at a pretty constant rate and so it's either filling the inside of the volcano and repressurize it or it's coming out to the surface."

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park spokesperson Jessica Ferracane told The Associated Press that she had not yet arrived at the park, but that colleague reported seeing some lava spatter and glow within the summit crater.

"He saw that from Volcano House, which is at least 2 miles away from the eruption site, so I suspect ... we'll be able to see a pretty glow, and who knows what else," she said. The Volcano House is a hotel and restaurant within the national park adjacent to the visitor center. The Park is open to visitors.

Ms. Ferracane said the area that is erupting is not close to where people can



The eruption is not in an area with homes and is entirely contained within Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. - Photo Credit / USGS via AP

hike or drive. Trails downwind from the eruption have been closed for years.

"The Park is open and there are no road closures at this time," Ms. Ferracane said.

Ms. Ferracane added that officials are expected tens of thousands of visitors to flock into the park and that people need to be very careful both in terms of natural hazards and COVID-19.

"This eruption is going to draw many people to the park, we're already seeing people come into the park, drive in after dark tonight," Ms. Ferracane said.

"Really need people to remember that we are in the middle of a pandemic and they need to stay safe and to keep us safe, too." She said people must maintain six feet of distance and wear masks.

"If you're sick, please don't come. Come visit another day. Enjoy the views from the webcam," she said. "We really want to not have these current eruption conditions increase the spread of COVID."



United States' relay swimmer Klete Keller - File Photo Credit / AP

OLYMPIC SWIMMER WHO STORMED CAPITOL PLEADS GUILTY TO FELONY

WASHINGTON, DC (TIP): Five-time Olympic swimming medalist Klete Keller pleaded guilty Wednesday, September 29, to a felony charge for storming the U.S. Capitol during the Jan. 6 riot and faces 21 to 27 months in prison.

Keller acknowledged in court records that he tried to obstruct Congress' certification of President Joe Biden's Electoral College victory, brushed away officers who tried to remove him from the Capitol Rotunda and yelled profane comments about House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer as he stood near officers wearing riot gear.

He also acknowledged throwing away the distinctive U.S. Olympic team jacket he wore during the riot and

destroying his phone and memory card containing photos and videos he took inside the Capitol.

Keller, 39, who grew up in Arizona and now lives in Colorado Springs, competed in the 2000, 2004 and 2008 Summer Olympics. He won two golds and a silver as a member of the 800-meter freestyle relay, as well as a pair of individual bronzes in the 400 free.

He pleaded guilty to obstruction of an official proceeding and agreed to cooperate with authorities as part of his plea deal.

Joe Biden gets COVID-19 booster shot as additional doses roll out

WASHINGTON, DC (TIP): U.S. President Joe Biden rolled up his shirt sleeve for a COVID-19 vaccine booster inoculation on Monday, September 27, hoping to provide a powerful example for Americans on the need to get the extra shot even as millions go without their first.

In getting the booster, Mr. Biden dismissed criticism that the United States should distribute more vaccines worldwide before allowing boosters at home.

"We are going to do our part," he said. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention (CDC) last week backed an additional dose of the Pfizer Inc/BioNTech vaccine for Americans aged 65 and older; adults with underlying medical conditions and adults in high-risk working and institutional settings.

Mr. Biden, 78, said his wife Jill would also get a booster shot soon.

While scientists are divided over the need for booster shots when so many people in the United States and other countries remain unvaccinated, Mr. Biden announced the push in August as part of an effort to shore up protection against the highly transmissible Delta

variant.

Only people who received their last dose of Pfizer's shot at least six months ago are eligible for another shot now, U.S. regulators said. The FDA has not yet considered Moderna's application for boosters and Johnson & Johnson has not yet applied for one.

U.S. officials have cited a "pandemic of the unvaccinated" that state, local and federal officials as well as private employers have tried to counter with mandates to get the shots or, in some cases, face repeated testing.

Experts continue to push vaccines as



Joe Biden receives a COVID-19 booster shot during an event in the South Court Auditorium on the White House campus, Monday, Sept. 27, 2021, in Washington.

Photo / AP

largely regional outbreaks of the virus across the United States continue to stress health care systems, which could be further exacerbated by exhausted nurses or doctors or by staff who refuse the shots.

Top US generals recommended having 2,500 troops in Afghanistan; White House defends withdrawal

WASHINGTON, DC (TIP): Top American generals on Tuesday, September 28, told lawmakers that they had recommended having 2,500 troops in Afghanistan to which President Joe Biden disagreed.

The White House, however, defended the presidential decision, acknowledging that it was a split recommendation from Biden's advisors and generals.

US Defiance Secretary Lloyd Austin, Chairman of US Joint Chief of Staff General Mark Milley and Gen Frank McKenzie, Commander of US Central Command told members of the Senate Armed Services Committee that the Pentagon had recommended Biden about the need to keep 2,500 American troops in Afghanistan post-withdrawal.

"I won't share my personal recommendation to the president, but I will give you my honest opinion, and my honest opinion and view shaped my recommendation. I recommended that we maintain 2,500 troops in Afghanistan. And I also recommended earlier in the fall of 2020 that we maintain 4,500 at that time. Those are my personal views," McKenzie told the senators.

Milley told the lawmakers that he also agreed with the recommendations that the

US maintain 2,500 troops in Afghanistan.

"Their input was received by the president and considered by the president, for sure.... In terms of what they specifically recommended, as they just said, they are not going to provide what they recommended in confidence," Austin told the lawmakers as the furious senators grilled the top Pentagon leadership on the nature of withdrawal of US troops from Afghanistan.

"I always keep my advice to the president confidential, but I am very much satisfied that we had a thorough policy review and I believe that all of the parties had an opportunity to provide input and that input was received," he said.

The White House defended the presidential decision in this regard.

"There was a range of viewpoints, as was evidenced by their testimony today, that were presented to the president and his national security team as would be expected. The president asked for a clear-eyed - did not ask them not to sugarcoat it, what their recommendations were," White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki told reporters at her daily news conference.

"It was also clear that would not be a long-standing recommendation, that there

would need to be an escalation, an increase in troop numbers. It would also mean war with the Taliban. And it would also mean the potential loss of casualties. The president was just not willing to make that decision," she said.

"He did not think it was in the interest of the American people or the interest of our troops," the press secretary asserted.

Responding to another question, Psaki said there were recommendations made by a range of Biden's advisers, something he welcomed, something he asked them to come to him clear-eyed about, to give him candid advice.

"Ultimately, it is up to the commander-in-chief to make a decision. He made a decision that it was time to end a 20-year war," Psaki said.

The official further explained that it is a risk assessment for every president about what is in the interest of the United States of America, its military and national interests.

"And if we had kept 2,500 troops there, we would have increased the number of troops, we would have been at war with the Taliban, and we would have had more US casualties," she said.

"That was a reality everybody was clear-eyed about. There are some, as is



Joint Chief of Staff General Mark Milley told lawmakers that he also agreed with the recommendations that US maintain 2,500 troops in Afghanistan

File photo

evidenced by people testifying today, who felt we should have still done that. That is not the decision the president made," Psaki added. (Source: PTI)

VIRGIN GALACTIC SAYS FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION HAS CLEARED IT FOR FURTHER FLIGHTS

WASHINGTON, DC (TIP): During the July 11 incident, the rocket ship carrying Richard Branson and five Virgin Galactic employees deviated outside the air traffic control clearance area during descent to a runway in New

Mexico

Virgin Galactic said Wednesday that the Federal Aviation Administration has cleared it to resume launches after an investigation into why its spaceship veered off course while descending during a July flight with founder Richard Branson aboard.

The company said it was advised by the FAA that corrective actions proposed by Virgin Galactic have been accepted.

A larger area will be designated as protected airspace to ensure there is room for "a variety of possible flight trajectories during spaceflight missions," a company statement said.

Virgin Galactic said it will incorporate additional steps in its flight procedures

to ensure real-time mission notifications to FAA air traffic control.

CEO Michael Colglazier said the company is committed to safety and appreciated the FAA's review.

"The updates to our airspace and real-time mission notification protocols will strengthen our preparations as we move closer to the commercial launch of our spaceflight experience," he said.

During the July 11 incident, the Rocketship carrying Branson and five Virgin Galactic employees deviated outside the air traffic control clearance area during descent to a runway in New Mexico. The FAA imposed a halt on flights pending the investigation.

Virgin Galactic has said high-altitude



Virgin Galactic's space tourism rocket plane. - File Photo Credit/ Reuters

wind caused the change in flight path and insisted the two pilots responded appropriately. The company said the ship did not travel over population centers or cause a hazard to the public.

Mid-day meal scheme is now 'PM Poshan', pre-primary children will be covered

The mid-day meal scheme will now be known as PM POSHAN, with the Centre initiating a major political push pivoted around 'child nutrition', and announcing that around 24 lakh students receiving pre-primary education at government and government-aided schools will also be brought under the ambit of the scheme from next year. Under the mid-day meal scheme, hot cooked food is provided currently to students from Classes 1 to 8 — around 11.80 crore children in all, in 11.20 lakh government and government-aided schools. Under PM Poshan Shakti Nirman or PM POSHAN scheme, 24 lakh more children in pre-primary classes, currently covered under the ICDS, will also be brought in. Last year, the government had opened pre-schools called Balvatikas attached to angandwadis. Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said PM POSHAN, approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi Wednesday, will provide a new shape to the policy "to enhance the nutrition levels of schoolchildren".

MoD clears acquisition proposals worth Rs 13,165 cr

The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) at a meeting on Wednesday accorded approval for procurement of 25 advanced light helicopters (ALH) from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) under Buy Indian scheme. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh chairs the DAC. The copters will cost Rs 3,850 crore. The decision comes a day after an ageing Cheetah helicopter crashed near Patni Top in Jammu and Kashmir killing both pilots. The single-engine Cheetah helicopters are based on the 1950s' designed Alouette Aérospatiale 315B Lama of France and are licence produced by HAL. The ALH is twin-engine helicopter and is based on latest technologies. Maintaining continued thrust towards "Aatmanirbhar Bharat" for giving boost to indigenous design and development, the DAC okayed the addition of 75 medium-range surface-to-air missiles (MRSAM) for Rs 1,700 crore to be procured from Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL), company owned by the MoD. The MRSAM is used to tackle incoming airborne threats. The DAC accorded approval to procurement of rocket ammunition from Indian sources at a cost of around Rs 4,962 crore. In all, the DAC okayed proposals worth Rs 13,165 crore. Procurement worth Rs 11,486 cr (around 87%) will be from domestic sources.

Punjab turmoil now a political storm for Cong

NEW DELHI/CHANDIGARH (TIP): A party in disarray in a poll-bound state. A defiant state unit chief rebuffing the party's overtures. A snubbed former chief minister meeting a top political rival. And, senior leaders publicly voicing differences with the leadership, prompting protests by others in the same party.

The Congress' troubles in Punjab spilled over to Delhi on Wednesday as former chief minister Amarinder Singh met Union home minister Amit Shah and leaders upped their pitch for organisational changes, a day after state unit chief Navjot Singh Sidhu's abrupt resignation plunged the party into crisis.

Singh, who had denied talk of him visiting Shah a day ago, drove to the home minister's residence around 6pm for a meeting that lasted less than an hour.

The event stoked speculation that Singh, who resigned as CM last week after a months-long tussle with Sidhu and complained he was humiliated by the party leadership, could join the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) or seek its support.

But Singh said the meeting focused on the ongoing farm agitation against three central laws. "Met Union home minister Amit Shah ji in Delhi. Discussed the prolonged farmers agitation and urged him to resolve the crisis urgently," he tweeted.

A senior BJP functionary said a section of the party felt Singh could resolve the standoff between the government and protesting farmers, but added that nothing was finalised. The Congress accused Shah and the BJP of trying to take revenge. "Amit Shah's residence is the hub of anti-Dalit politics," said party spokesperson Randeep Singh Surjewala, referring to the Punjab's new chief minister Charanjit Singh Channi, a Dalit.

"Not ji huzoor 23"

The Congress's woes in Punjab, where the party was well-placed to fight the February-March assembly polls before factionalism erupted in May, prompted a group of senior leaders in Delhi to resurrect their 2020 demands for organisational changes and internal elections.

Ghulam Nabi Azad, one of the leaders of the so-called G23, wrote to party chief Sonia Gandhi seeking a Congress Working Committee meeting to discuss the Punjab and Goa situations as well as the "mass exodus" in the organisation. Senior Congress leader and former Goa CM Luizhinio Falerio joined the Trinamool Congress on Wednesday, Sept 29.

Another G-23 leader, Kapil Sibal, demanded "open dialogue" and introspection, questioning the lack of clarity in the decision-making process.



(Left) Capt Amarinder Singh meeting Amit Shah, (above) Charanjit Singh Channi and (below) Navjot Singh Sidhu.

He emphasised that the grouping was not made up of yes men: "We are G23 but not 'ji huzoor (yes, lordship) 23'," he told reporters in the Capital.

Sibal said he was speaking on behalf of the 23 leaders who wrote to Sonia Gandhi last year and were waiting for the leadership to act on their demands.

"We don't have a president. So, who's taking the decisions? We all know and yet we don't know. We want a CWC meeting for a dialogue to take place," he said.

The former Union minister clarified that the G-23 leaders did not plan to exit the party. "People close to them have left them. But those who are not considered close, are with them," he said, referring to the exits of senior leaders in recent months.

Party general secretary Ajay Maken criticised the comments and party workers protested outside his house in the evening with "get well soon" placards. "My appeal to Mr Sibal and others like him is that they should not denigrate the organisation which has given them political identity by rushing to the media every then and now," Maken told PTI.

Punjab tussle

Dissension in the Congress's Punjab unit erupted in May but the leadership hoped the appointment of Sidhu as party unit chief and the removal of his arch-rival Singh as CM would tamp down tensions.

But Sidhu's resignation barely 72 days after being appointed took the party by surprise, and embarrassed Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, who together orchestrated Sidhu's appointment and Singh's exit as part of an effort to end factionalism and improve the party's chances in next year's state elections.

The move exposed new fault lines in the party. On Wednesday, Sidhu appeared to rebuff the Congress's overtures and questioned key

appointments made by chief minister Channi.

"To fight for justice of 'Guru Sahib' and to improve the lives of people of Punjab and for the means, I will make any sacrifice but will always stand by principles," Sidhu said, despite a series of senior leaders, including Channi, trying to convince him to take back the resignation.

Senior leaders said differences between Sidhu and his one-time close associate Channi sprang up over picking minister Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa, who the former cricketer sees as a rival for the CM's post, and controversial appointments to the positions of state advocate general and director general of police.

Channi signalled that the party continued to talk to Sidhu. "I called him (Sidhu) and told him that the party is supreme... I have spoken to him on phone and told him to let's sit, talk it out and resolve the issue," the CM told reporters in Chandigarh.

Defiant, Sidhu raises appointments in state

Chandigarh : A day after his dramatic resignation as Punjab Congress chief, Navjot Singh Sidhu kept his party on tenterhooks on Wednesday, putting out a video to raise questions over key appointments by chief minister Charanjit Singh Channi and rebuffing overtures by top leaders. Channi, who is battling his first major political crisis just 10 days after taking over as the CM, offered to sit down and iron out differences. But Sidhu struck a defiant note in his video message, questioning the selection of the advocate general, director general of police and "tainted leaders" in the cabinet. Sidhu said he was ready to make any sacrifice but would always stand by his principles. "My first priority is to fight for justice that people have been waiting for...I will fight for truth till my last breath.

Source: HT

Taliban reach out to India over resumption of flights, scholarships

The Taliban setup in Kabul has been reaching out to the Indian side to explore the continuation of contacts in different fields, ranging from resumption of commercial flights to scholarships for Afghan students, people familiar with matter said on Wednesday, Sept 29.

These contacts have come at a time when the Indian government has indicated it is in no hurry to recognise the interim cabinet created by the Taliban, which is dominated by hardliners and members of the UN-designated Haqqani Network. The people cited above said on condition of anonymity that there had been no formal response to any of the Taliban proposals.

The Afghanistan Civil Aviation Authority, which is now controlled by the so-called "Islamic Emirate" of the Taliban, sent a formal communication to India's Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on September 7 regarding the resumption of commercial flights between the two countries from Kabul airport.

The letter, addressed to DGCA chief Arun Kumar and signed by "acting minister" Hameedullah Akhonzada, contends that the Kabul airport was "damaged and [made] dysfunctional" by American troops before their withdrawal last month. The airport had been made operational again with aid from Qatar and a NOTAM or "notice to airmen" in this regard had been issued on September 6, the letter adds.

India's new Covid case tally again crosses 20k-mark, active count still lowest

NEW DELHI (TIP): The country's coronavirus pandemic scenario worsened slightly on Thursday, Sept 30, with about a 25 per cent rise in fresh cases over last day's figures. Following two straight days of fresh case tally remaining below the 20,000-mark, India registered 23,529 cases in the last 24 hours.

According to updated data available with the Union ministry of health and family welfare, the active caseload has, however, remained below one per cent of the total cases at 0.82 per cent, the lowest since March 2020. The active caseload now stood at 2,77,020, while the total number of virus-related cases registered so far was 3,37,39,980.

At 97.85 per cent, recoveries are also at the highest since March last year with 28,718 patients declared officially cured from the disease in the last one day.

As many as 311 people also lost their fight with the viral disease during the same period taking the total death toll to 4,48,062.

The ministry said 65,34,306 doses of vaccines against Covid-19 were administered in the last 24 hours. This pushed the total number of inoculations done since the drive's launch earlier this year to 88,34,70,578.

Earlier, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) said 15,06,254 samples were tested for the virus on Wednesday, taking the total number of tests conducted so far to detect the disease to 56,89,56,439.

Centre urges people to spend festive season at home

Ahead of the festive season, Member (Health) of Niti Aayog, VK Paul has appealed to Indians to celebrate inside their households and within their



families lest coronavirus disease (Covid-19) becomes dominant again, news agency ANI reported on Wednesday, Sept 29. "My plea would be that this time let us celebrate the great tradition of India within our families, in our own households. Make sure that eligible family members have taken the vaccine," he was quoted as saying by ANI.

The top government official added that people must avoid going outside during the forthcoming festive season, and refrain from being in large gatherings. He stated that while outside, people must

maintain social distance and wear masks.

"There will be many opportunities to celebrate festivals later. If we take these precautions, then till the end of this year, we will be much safer," he added.

Paul pointed out that although the virus exists more in some areas, and less in others, the second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic is still present in the country. Therefore, he told ANI, gathering in large groups, in closed spaces, are "not good for us because we are giving a chance to the virus to engulf us yet again."

SC: Even legislature can't curtail power of contempt

NEW DELHI (TIP): Observing that its power of contempt can't be taken away even by a law enacted by the legislature, the Supreme Court on Sept 29, held the chairperson of an NGO guilty of contempt of court for not depositing a fine of Rs 25 lakh imposed on him for "browbeating" the court.

"The power to punish for contempt is a constitutional power which cannot be abridged or taken away even by legislative enactment," a Bench led by Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul said, holding Suraz India Trust chairman Rajiv Daiya guilty of contempt of court. Article 129 of the Constitution declares: "The Supreme Court shall be a court of record and shall have all the powers of such a court including the power to punish for contempt of itself." Article 215 makes a similar declaration with regard to high courts' power of contempt.

"We have little doubt that what the



contemnor has been endeavouring is to have his way or, alternatively, I will throw mud at all and sundry, whether it be the court, its administrative staff or the state government so that people,

apprehensive of this mud thrown, may back off. We refuse to back off and are clear in our view that we must take it to its logical conclusion," the top court said.

Holding that Daiya was clearly guilty of contempt of court, the Bench said, "His actions to scandalise the court cannot be countenanced. He continues with his contumacious behaviour. The apologies submitted by him are only endeavours to get out of the consequences again followed by another set of allegations, thus, a charade."

Maintaining that it was not mandated to give Daiya a hearing on the issue of sentence, the top court said it would still give him one more chance on the question of final sentence and posted the matter for hearing on October 7.

Daiya had sought recall of the top court's 2017 verdict imposing a fine of Rs 25 lakh for filing 64 PILs and "repeatedly misusing" its jurisdiction and wasting judicial time. He had said he didn't have the resources to shell out such a huge amount and that he would approach the President with a mercy plea.

India in history this Week

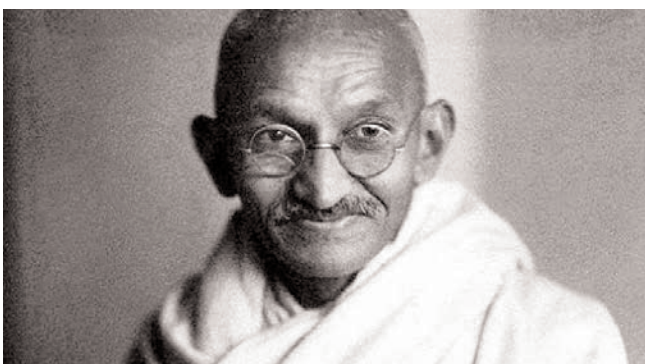
OCTOBER 1 TO OCTOBER 7, 2021

01 OCTOBER



1568 The Mughal emperor Akbar attacked Chittorgarh.
 1962 The war started between India and China over the border dispute.
 1574 The third Sikh Guru Amardas died.
 1847 Anne Besant, a member of the Theosophical Society, who played a major role in India's freedom movement, was born in London.
 1854 The introduction of postage stamps started in India.
 1888 National Geographic magazine was first published.
 1919 Famous Urdu poet Majrooh Sultanpuri was born.
 1853 Andhra Pradesh became a separate state in India.
 1967 Indian Tourism Development Corporation was established.
 1978 The marriage age of girls was increased from 14 to 18 and that of boys from 18 to 21 years.
 2003 India overcame Bangladesh's apprehensions about linking rivers.

02 OCTOBER



1869 Birth of Mahatma Gandhi in Porbandar, Gujarat. On the strength of non-violence, he contributed significantly to the independence of the country.
 1904 Birthday of Lal Bahadur Shastri. With his simplicity and the slogan 'Jai Jawan Jai Kisan', he became popular among the masses. Led the country in the Indo-Pak war of 1965.
 1924 The Geneva proposal, brought with the aim of strengthening the League of Nations, was approved by the General Assembly but was not ratified later.
 1975 Bharat Ratna honored freedom fighter, politician, Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu K.K. Kamaraj was born.
 1929 Gandhiji made the Navajivan Office a public trust.
 1951 Shyama Prasad Mukherjee founded the Bharatiya Jan Sangh.
 1952 Initiation of community development program.
 1955 The Integral Coach Factory at Perambur, Madras, built the first coach of the rail.
 1961 Establishment of Shipping Corporation of India in Bombay (Mumbai).
 1971 The President of India dedicated the Birla Sadan to the country. Mahatma Gandhi was

assassinated in this building and was renamed Gandhi Sadan.

1985 Dowry Prohibition Amendment Act implemented.

1988 The largest road bridge at that time over the sea connecting Mandapam and Pamban was opened for traffic.

2000 Russia's President Vladimir Putin arrived in Delhi on a four-day visit, adding a new chapter to the old friendly relations between India and Russia.

2006 South Africa decided to support India in the nuclear fuel supply case.

03 OCTOBER

1994 India submitted its formal claim for permanent membership of the Security Council.

1978 The first test tube baby was born in the Indian state of Calcutta (now Kolkata) and the second in the world.

1984 India's longest distance train Himsagar Express was diverted from Kanyakumari to Jammu Tawi.

2010 The 19th Commonwealth Games began in Delhi, India.

1831 Britain was captured by Mysore (now Mysuru).

1880 The first Marathi music drama 'Sangeet Shakuntal' was staged in Pune.

2008 Tata Motors Chairman Ratan Tata announced the move of the Nano car project from Singur elsewhere.

1949 Indian film director J.K. P. Dutta was born.



1992 Geet Sethi won the World Professional Billiards Championship.

04 OCTOBER

1884 Ramachandra Shukla, the leading Hindi writer and critic, was born.

1977 India's Foreign Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee addressed the meeting of the United Nations General Assembly in Hindi. This was the first address given in Hindi.



1986 Indian Helicopter Corporation was established.

1974 India refused to participate in the Davis Cup by going there to resist the pillar of the South African government.

1927 Sarla Grewal, the second woman officer of India in the Indian Administrative Service and former Governor of Madhya Pradesh, was born.

2011 The strike continued on the 22nd day in Andhra Pradesh for a separate Telangana state.

05 OCTOBER

1864 About 50,000 people died due to cyclone in Calcutta city.

1805 The second governor general of the British Raj in India, Commander in Chief Lord Cornwallis, died in Ghazipur.

1989 Meera Sahib Beevi became the first woman judge of the Supreme Court.

1999 India decided not to attend the special meeting on the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT).

2011 The world's cheapest Rs 2250 tablet PC Aakash was launched in India.

1676 The East India Company got the right to exchange Indian currency in Mumbai from the King of England.

2008 The Central Government started testing elsewhere for the 'Setu Samudram Project' as directed by the Supreme Court.

1524 The birth of Rani Durgavati, one of the famous Veeraganna queens of Indian history.

1934 Birth of Indian actor, comedian, political satirist, playwright, film director and advocate Cho Ramaswamy.

06 OCTOBER

2008 In view of the global recession, the Reserve Bank of India decided to cut the cash reserve ratio (CRR) of banks by half a percent.

1862 The Indian Penal Code Act was passed and came into force from January 1.

1954 Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru announced a National Health Plan for the country.

1858 The revolutionary Nana Saheb Peshwa died.

1983 President's rule was imposed in Punjab.

1935 Jeevan D Ghosh, the longest umpiring umpire in India, was born in Bengal.

1893 Indian scientist Meghnath Saha, who has done important work in the field of mathematics and physics, was born

07 OCTOBER

1950 Mother Teresa established the Missionaries of Charity in Kolkata.

2008 Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas arrived in India on a four-day state visit.

1586 The Mughal army entered Kashmir.

1737 Three lakh people died in Bengal when a 20 thousand small ship sank 40 feet below the sea.

1919 Gandhiji's 'Navjeevan' magazine published.

1952 Chandigarh became the capital of Punjab.



2000 WWF - India won the first Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Conservation Award.

1891 Freedom fighter and close associate of Mahatma Gandhi, Narhari Parikh was born.

1907 Durga Bhabhi, the principal ally of revolutionaries, was born in India's freedom struggle.

1708 Sikh Guru Guru Govind Singh died.

ओ३म्

Arya Samaj of Long Island Inc.

Presents

Sur Sangam

Evening of Melodious Hindi Songs



&
Deepavali Gala Dinner



SUNDAY OCTOBER 17, 2021 - 6:00 - 10:00PM

- We follow CDC guidelines -

Honoree

ACHARYA DARSHANAND RAMDASS
Vedic Scholar, Priest ASLI

ACHARYA HARI PRASAD -
Vedic Scholar & Priest APSA



Live Versatile Singing by
Leena Karande and Kunal Lamba

at Akbar Restaurant 2 South Street, Garden City, NY 11530

In benefit of: ARYA SAMAJ of Long Island Inc. - VED VAANI

Contributions: Adults - \$75 • Children Below 12 Yrs - \$40

For tickets & more information, please contact:

Dr. Yashpal Arya (516) 997-7220
Dr. Vijaypal Arya (516) 656-0340
Sudesh Mukhi (631) 499-4097
Dr. Anurab Talwar (516) 385-2820
Rajesh Goyal (516) 643-8162

Veer S. Mukhi (917) 715-1974
Vijay Goswamy (516) 731-5250
Dr. Anila Midha (516) 569-6261
Ambika Mukhi 516-769-9570
Shalini Bansal 516-589-2982

"Arya Samaj Bhavan"

319 Jerusalem Ave., Hicksville, NY 11801

"Arya Sanskriti Center"

66 11th Street, Hicksville, NY 11801

Web: www.aryasamajoflongisland.org

Email: aryasamajoflongisland@yahoo.com



Pooja Bhatt celebrates 5 years of quitting alcohol

Pooja Bhatt has found love in her sobriety. The actor-filmmaker will mark five years of keeping away from alcohol in December. Pooja bared her emotions in a long Instagram post, which she wrote late on Monday.

"I can't remember a time when I've not been in love. With people, yes.. But more so with the very idea of love. I looked for love everywhere I went. Chased it down unfamiliar avenues in the dead of the night & even across countries, borders, continents. I can't blame anyone for failing me because the truth is I more often than not, failed myself," Pooja Bhatt wrote in her post.

She added that it was only when the "universe introduced me to the love of my life – sobriety" that she found a direction. "It's been almost five years of this deeply gratifying relationship," she added.

Gauahar shows off huge engagement ring in new video, Zaid has a question

Gauahar Khan, in a new video, flaunted the huge engagement ring that her husband Zaid Darbar proposed to her with. She did so as a part of a viral trend on Instagram.

The video started with Gauahar showing her palm, as a voiceover said, "I wouldn't have been mad if he proposed with a ring pop but..." As she flipped her hand to show her engagement ring, the song Make His Pockets Hurt played in the background.

Sharing the video, Gauahar wrote, "#trend #reels @zaid_darbar not a #ringpop! Heheheh." Zaid dropped a heart-eyes emoji on the post, along with a question. "But where are the other rings?" he asked, along with a zany emoji.

Fans, meanwhile, showered love on the couple. "Awww, this so cutee, may you guys stay like this together and forever, mashaallah," one wrote. Many also dropped the 'GaZa' hashtag and heart emojis in the comments section.

Gauahar and Zaid tied the knot last December. He saw her at a supermarket in July last year and three days later, slid into her Instagram DMs. They got married after a whirlwind romance.

Recently, during an appearance on Zoom's By Invite Only, Gauahar revealed that she was angry when it was misreported that Zaid was 12 years younger than her. "I was like, 'Why do you have this wrong age on your Wiki? It's all your fault' blah blah," she said.



However, Zaid calmed Gauahar down and said that it is a fact that he was younger, although the age difference being reported was incorrect. "He calmed me down and said, 'Gauahar, I am younger than you, I don't have any

problem being 20 years younger than you. That's another thing that I am only six years younger than you. It's okay, don't get affected.' That's when I said, 'Chuck it'," she had said.

Source: HT

Akshay Kumar, Katrina Kaif's Sooryavanshi to light up theatres on Diwali

Akshay Kumar's Sooryavanshi is all set to release on Diwali, November 5, in theatres. Directed by Rohit Shetty, the film also stars Katrina Kaif in the lead role and features Ranveer Singh and Ajay Devgn in cameo roles. Akshay took to social media to announce that Sooryavanshi will on Diwali after Maharashtra cinemas reopen in October.

Last month, Akshay Kumar's Bell Bottom became the first major commercial movie to go for a theatrical release. Now, as Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray has declared that the state's cinema halls will reopen from October 22, Akshay Kumar's Sooryavanshi will release on Diwali. The action film is the best Diwali offering for fans.

Sharing a photo with Maharashtra CM Uddhav Thackeray, Sooryavanshi director Rohit Shetty, and his co-actors Ranveer Singh and Ajay Devgn, Akshay wrote on Instagram, "So many families would be thanking Sh Uddhav Thackeray today! Grateful for allowing the reopening of cinema halls in Maharashtra from Oct 22. Ab kisi ke roke na rukegi - AA RAHI HAI POLICE #Sooryavanshi #Diwali2021 (sic)."



Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2: Kartik Aaryan film cranks up the mystery

Actor Kartik Aaryan has several projects in his kitty but the most awaited one is indubitably Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2. The film is a sequel of 2007 film starring Akshay Kumar in the lead role. Kartik, who fills in the shoes of Akshay in the sequel, shared a new motion poster on Instagram on Tuesday. The motion poster will leave you spooked because of its background score. It also presents Kartik in a new avatar. While earlier posters featured Kartik in an orange attire, the new poster shows Kartik dressed in all-black. He is sitting on the top of an old monument and is surrounded with ravens on a full moon night. Sharing the poster on Instagram, Kartik wrote, "25th March 2022. Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2 at a theatre near you!"





Angelina Jolie, The Weeknd seen together in LA

Angelina Jolie and The Weeknd once again continue to fuel dating rumours after the two were recently seen together, out in Los Angeles.

According to a report, the 'Maleficent' actor, and the 'After Hours' singer were snapped leaving Giorgio Baldi restaurant in matching all-black outfits and masks.

They were also spotted at the same swanky Italian eatery in late June. A news outlet reported that Jolie and The Weeknd (born Abel Tesfaye) dined for over two hours and then got into the same SVU together.

A source close to The Weeknd previously told a website that their relationship might be business-focused. "They're clearly not trying to hide the dinner date," the source said, adding, "He's definitely focused on getting to the movie business. He has the new HBO series he's starring in."

Bond is back: 'No Time To Die' premieres in London

With a guest list made up of Oscar winners and British royalty, James Bond film "No Time To Die" finally held its delayed world premiere in London on Tuesday, Sept 28, in the cinema's most high profile red carpet since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Wet weather failed to dampen spirits as Daniel Craig, dressed in an eye-catching pink velvet dinner jacket, and co-stars including Rami Malek, Lashana Lynch and Lea Seydoux reunited for the hotly anticipated movie, which cinema operators hope will help bring audiences back to pre-pandemic levels.

"No Time To Die", the 25th Bond movie, has been delayed three times since its original April 2020 slot as movie theatres around the world were forced to shut their doors as well as impose audience number restrictions due to the pandemic.

The Universal Pictures and MGM film, part of one of Hollywood's biggest franchises, marks Craig's fifth and final outing as the suave British secret agent, wrapping up a 15-year tenure that began with 2006's "Casino Royale".

"It's such a great relief. It was so important to me to come and celebrate with all the other cast and crew and to get it into the cinemas



and we're here," Craig told Reuters.

"A year ago I didn't think that was going to happen."

Asked what he was going to miss the most from playing 007, he said: "The people."

Costing an estimated \$200 million to produce, "No Time To Die" sees Bond come out of retirement in Jamaica to help track down a new villain, described by Oscar winner Malek as "mischievous (and) devious", and armed with lethal

technology.

"The most daunting part was just coming up with a good story," director Cary Joji Fukunaga said. "I think of it as a last chapter of this one book where we (first) met Daniel in 'Casino Royale' (and) it's all part of the same story."

The film introduces 00 agent Nomi, played by Lynch, who said: "I'm just happy it's here and we get to celebrate it in the way that it deserves."

Will Smith speaks candidly about his marriage to Jada Pinkett Smith

Hollywood star Will Smith recently spoke candidly about his marriage to Jada Pinkett Smith after it came to light earlier this year that she had a romantic "entanglement" with another man.

According to a report, in July, Jada appeared on her Facebook Watch series 'Red Table Talk' with her husband where she addressed rumours about an extramarital affair head-on.

Jada had admitted that about four-and-a-half years ago, she and Will separated with the intention to divorce, and while separated she had a "relationship" with August Alsina.

Now, speaking to a magazine, Will discussed some of the revelations that will come up in his upcoming memoir, 'Will'. Interviewer Wesley Lowery read an advanced copy of the book, noting that the 'Men In Black' actor does not go into much detail regarding the situation because much of it was made public in July.

"Jada never believed in conventional marriage... Jada had family members that had an unconventional relationship," Will said of his wife of 23 years.



Shang-Chi becomes the highest-grossing film of 2021, beats Black Widow

As expected, Disney-Marvel's Shang-Chi And The Legend Of Ten Rings is raging through the box office, and is standing ground after minting 3.6 million dollars on Friday, which is a feat in itself, as it makes the Destin Daniel Cretton-directed film the highest grossing title during the pandemic ahead of Black Widow with a 186 million dollars. It doesn't end there, as Shang-chi is expected to gross around 12.8 million through the next three days and a running total of 196 million dollars.

This is seen as a landmark for the movie theater business, as it was released solely in theaters with 45 days of exclusivity, as compared to Black Widow and many other new releases, which have opted for a hybrid model, with ensuing controversies.

This weekend, Shang-Chi is predicted to top the domestic box office charts for the fourth weekend straight, adding an expected 12 million to 14 million dollars. In all probability, the film would end the weekend just shy of the 200 million dollar mark.



THE NEWARK ARTS FEST CELEBRATES LEGENDARY WARWICK'S 'CREATIVE RESILIENCE'

BY MABEL PAIS

Dionne Warwick: Queen of Twitter
In-person



"Dionne: Queen of Twitter," 2021
Photo / Beau McCall

The Newark Arts celebrates its 20th Newark Arts Festival this fall with a headline exhibit honoring legendary entertainer and New Jersey native Dionne Warwick - "Dionne Warwick: Queen of Twitter." The exhibit will debut on Wednesday, October 6, 2021, from 6-9 PM ET in a pop-up gallery at the Hahne & Co., 609 Broad St, Newark, NJ 07102.

The Festival's opening night reception includes the debut of our headline pop-up exhibition, "Dionne Warwick: Queen of Twitter." The exhibition features specially commissioned artwork inspired by the humorous, sassy, profound, and inspirational tweets by Ms. Warwick. Plus, rarely seen archival material will be on display including items from Ms. Warwick's personal collection.

THE EXHIBITION

"Dionne Warwick: Queen of Twitter" is an art exhibition inspired by a single Twitter account user: @DionneWarwick. In 2020, the legendary entertainer's account went viral and was covered by major media outlets. Her commentary on everything

from perplexing celebrity stage names (yes, we're looking at you, The Weeknd and Chance the Rapper) to social justice issues has offered laughs, wisdom, and comfort for an intergenerational audience during the Covid-19 pandemic and civil unrest.

In this exhibition, artists have created specially commissioned works referencing the humorous, sassy, profound, and inspirational tweets by Ms. Warwick. The works range from site-specific installations to mixed media pieces exploring Ms. Warwick's social justice and spiritual background and that sharp wit that makes her everyone's favorite "Auntie." Accompanying these works is an intimate selection of archival material spotlighting her illustrious and groundbreaking career.

Collectively, the artwork and archival materials celebrate Ms. Warwick's creative resilience. The latter is defined within the context of this exhibition as the ability to creatively use the arts and social media to surmount life's obstacles and imagine a better future. Throughout her career and via her online presence, Ms. Warwick has consistently demonstrated the power of

creative resilience to uplift, educate, and unite people during challenging times. Thus, making her a true Queen.

FEATURED ARTISTS: Lavett Ballard, Pamela Council, Jo-El Lopez, Beau McCall, Dianne Smith, Felandus Thames

Featured Private Collections: Dionne Warwick, Soule

SCHEDULE

More theatre, music, dance and visual art events to be added daily...check out at #NAF2021

For a schedule of events, visit newarkartsfestival.com/events

For schedule updates, visit newarkartsfestival.com/events/a-z/entry/21595

To RSVP, visit newarkartsfestival.com/rsvp

COVID SAFETY PROTOCOLS

A vaccination card or negative Covid test taken within 72 hours of arrival at the exhibit at 609 Broad Street is required. Masks and Social Distancing are required

POLARIS LAUNCHES FIRST BIPOC FREE CHANNEL

BY MABEL PAIS

Polaris Delivers Meaningful Content Created By BIPOC To Millions of Households

POLARIS launches its first free ad-supported streaming TV channel (FAST). The 100% black-owned television, digital and social media platform debuts on VIZIO's SmartCast platform. Created by digital media pioneer and legendary journalist, Rahman J. Dukes, Polaris exists to uncover and share stories created by Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) and authentically share Hip-Hop and Black culture with the world. With guidance from the Polaris board, iconic media personality Sway Calloway (MTV) and music historian Shaheem Reid, Polaris delivers a superior viewing experience through authentic, meaningful content that channels the spirit of African culture and music.

Polaris will officially debut in October exclusively to VIZIO SmartCast users on WatchFree+, VIZIO's free streaming service.

"Working with Polaris, we are bringing to market a channel that celebrates black culture and delivers unique entertainment experiences to SmartCast users," said Steve DeMain, VP Engagement at VIZIO. "We are excited to partner with these legendary creators to deliver a channel exclusive to SmartCast audiences."

"Partnering with VIZIO to launch Polaris is a historical step in getting the stories of Black and BIPOC storytellers out there in an authentic way, something we've prided ourselves in for the past two decades," said Rahman J. Dukes, Principal Chairman and Founder of Polaris. "Polaris aims to be a beacon of inspiration for the culture, and VIZIO will allow our curated content to truly be that beacon, and help us deliver authentic programming to millions of households."

VIZIO SmartCast viewers soon have around-the-clock access to authentic programming from Polaris, including:

- The Daily Check In - In this flagship show, music historian Shaheem Reid delves into the hottest entertainment topics of the day with notable celebrities and media personalities.
- BridgeBizness - In this sports-centric show, well-respected journalist Sway Calloway and media personality Horse will host an interview style show featuring special guests and celebrities.
- Method To The Madness - An episodic series that documents the early stages of Method Man's career during his meteoric rise to the top of the rap game.
- 9BLOCC - A music video countdown show fused with social media commentary that highlights up and coming artists.

VIZIO

Founded and headquartered in Orange County, California, the mission at VIZIO Holding Corp. is to deliver immersive entertainment and compelling lifestyle enhancements that make their products the center of the connected home. They are driving the future of televisions through their integrated platform of cutting-edge Smart TVs and powerful SmartCast™ operating system.

VIZIO provides convenient access to on-screen apps like Apple TV+, BET+, Disney+, HBO Max, Hulu, Netflix, Paramount+, Peacock, Prime Video and YouTube.TV. It also includes support for Apple AirPlay 2 & Chromecast built-in, allowing viewers to stream, control, and share content from their phone, tablet, or laptop directly onto the big screen. VIZIO SmartCast is continuously enhancing the platform with new features and content, so users have endless entertainment options, all while staying healthy and safe in their homes.

To learn more, visit VIZIO.com. Follow VIZIO on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

POLARIS & RAHMAN J. DUKES

Rooted at the intersection of Black culture,



(left to right): Sway Calloway, Rahman J. Dukes, Shaheem Reid
Photo / Gtorres Media

entertainment and technology, Polaris aims to revolutionize content consumption across TV, digital and social platforms. The 100% Black-owned multimedia entertainment brand is driven by a commitment to illuminate the culture with premium, cross-generational content and programming that entertains, educates, inspires and uplifts. Airing on WatchFree+, VIZIO's free streaming service, Polaris' 24-hour streaming channel will uncover narratives created by BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) storytellers, empower emerging content creators and collaborate with some of hip-hop's finest. At the helm of Polaris is its chairman and founder, esteemed TV industry veteran, Rahman J. Dukes. A former executive at MTV and REVOLT TV, the behind-the-scenes power-player, has developed and produced game-changing and thought-provoking content across platforms for almost two decades.

For more information, and Watch Polaris. Follow Polaris on Twitter.

Follow Rahman J. Dukes at [instagram.com/rahmandukes](https://www.instagram.com/rahmandukes).

(Mabel Pais writes on Social Issues, The Arts and Entertainment, Spirituality, and Health & Wellness)

DO FRIENDSHIPS BECOME MORE CRITICAL AS WE AGE?

BY MABEL PAIS

JCC's ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM ON POSITIVE AGING
Monday, October 25, hybrid in-person and virtual event

(Photo P 1 here)

JCC's 6th Annual Symposium on Positive Aging: Friendship, Connection, and Community will take place on Monday, October 25. It will feature two sessions: hybrid and virtual. The morning session will begin with an in-person conversation between Rabbi Joy Levitt, CEO of the Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan, and Pulitzer Prize-winning author and journalist Anna Quindlen. Quintessential modern agers, Anna and Joy will reflect on their decades-long relationship and discuss the unique ways in which friendships become more critical as we age.

The afternoon session (all virtual) will include an array of thought-provoking workshops designed to educate and inspire, from presenters ranging from New York Cares Executive Director Gary Bagley to Lilith Founding Editor Susan Weidman Schneide, focusing on the theme of friendships and connections through shared interests and experiences.

Attendees will select one workshop from a variety of offerings. Optional small group breakout sessions will create opportunities for conversations and connections over lunch, and a movement session will be incorporated into the day. Recordings of all sessions will be available.

TICKETS

Tickets are available for Entire Day, Morning Session only & Afternoon workshops only. *A SPECIAL SUPPORTER TICKET is also offered for those who wish their name listed in the event program, receive priority seating at the live session and a Wechsler Center gift. For more information, visit mmjccm.org.

WORKSHOPS

Really Being There
Chaplain Dvorah Telushkin, Shaliach Tzibur, Prayer Leader, The New Jewish Home

Through prayer and recitation of psalms and devotion to friends, Chaplain Dvorah Telushkin tells the story of how losing a child turned into an everlasting friendship.

Social Media: A Link to Connection

Barry Elkins + Abby Rich, Tech Soup

Facebook has long been the most popular social media platform, but in recent years, the younger generation has moved on to others - Instagram, WhatsApp, TikTok, Twitter, and more. Participants will have the opportunity to share, connect, and interact with each other.

Empathy and Support on Your Health Journey

Rabbi Mychal Springer, Manager of Clinical Pastoral Care at New York-Presbyterian, in conversation with Rabbi Jeremy Kalmanofsky, Congregation Anshe Chesed

Being there for a friend who is ill requires more than just listening. Wherever you are on your health journey, having a friend truly listen as you go through it builds connection and community.

The Life I Want to Live as I Age

Alice Chera, CPCC/ACC, AKC Life Coach

In this interactive workshop, we'll learn how to gain new perspectives on having the courage and confidence to move from self-imposed limitations to possibilities through techniques such as vision mapping, and get the inspiration to fulfill our dreams.

Impactful Volunteering

Gary Bagley, Executive Director, New York Cares

Volunteering can be a meaningful and fun way to make friends, connect to community, enhance well-being, increase self-confidence, provide purpose, learn new skills, and increase social interaction and support. Explore the potential rewards and challenges to ensure that your volunteering has a real, lasting impact.

The Evolving Nature of Friendship

Rabbi Laura Geller, co-author of "Getting Good at Getting Older"

If there's one thing we've learned from the past 19



Positive Aging Circle - Photo / mmjccm.org

months, it's the value of true friendship. How do we decide which are still of value to us, how to help them thrive in a post-COVID world, and how to cope with ones that are lost (or the loss of friends themselves)?

Exploring Friendship Through Theater

Scott Klavan, actor, longtime JCC drama teacher, lifetime member of The Actors Studio

Theater has long been a way to present stories of friendship and community, loneliness, and alienation. This workshop will offer funny, moving performances by actors of scenes from plays dealing with various themes. We'll also give interested participants a chance to join the action, performing in a scene themselves.

Reading and Writing: Family, Friends, and the Solace of Books

Nessa Rapoport, author of "Evening," in conversation with Susan Weidman Schneider, founding editor of "Lilith" magazine

Reading can enlighten us about our closest relationships and inspire us to engage with others. Nessa Rapoport is a contemporary author who focuses on the themes of friendship, connection, and community, building characters who learn from old and new relationships, deal with family secrets or friends' betrayals, and learn to carry on.

2021 WHO'S WHO

Rabbi Joy Levitt is the CEO of the Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan, a position she will hold until December 2021. To learn more, visit mmjccm.org

Anna Quindlen is a novelist and journalist whose work has appeared on fiction, nonfiction, and self-help bestseller lists. To learn more, visit www.annaquindlen.net

SHU INVITES STUDENT BUSINESS ENTREPRENEURS

BY MABEL PAIS

Seton Hall University Invites High School Entrepreneurs for Pirates Pitch Competition



Student Business Entrepreneur Winners - Photo / shu.edu

Seton Hall University (SHU) invites High school students with a business idea or a business they have already launched are invited to participate in the seventh annual High School Pirates Pitch competition. The event is hosted by the Center of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (shu.edu/innovation-and-entrepreneurship) at the Stillman School of Business (shu.edu/business). Learning the basics of entrepreneurship and recognizing viable business opportunities while participating in this "Shark Tank" style competition, the next generation of entrepreneurs

will compete for more than \$50,000 in cash prizes and scholarships to attend Seton Hall University (shu.edu).

"We recognize how our business climate has been rocked by the unprecedented COVID-19 global health crisis and that entrepreneurial education is even more important than ever before," said Susan Scherreik (shu.edu/profiles/susanscherreikhynes), founding director of the Center of Innovation and Entrepreneurship. "Students participating receive crucial business lessons on how to be nimble and flexible. I am always impressed by their talent, passion, creativity and confidence. This generation demonstrates a can-do entrepreneurial spirit that we need now more than ever to solve the many challenges the world faces today."

High school sophomores, juniors, and seniors with a 3.0 GPA or better are eligible to submit their original business proposals that describe an innovative product or service in 350 words or less. Interested students should submit an individual application by Tuesday, Oct. 26.

Each year, this event receives around 200 submissions from future business leaders hailing from New Jersey as well as entrants from throughout the nation and the world. The competition finals take place in November during National Entrepreneurship Month in the United States, celebrating entrepreneurs who serve their communities and bolster the American economy.

Ten finalists will be selected in early November and invited to present their business ideas to a panel of

judges from Seton Hall University on Friday, November 19. Judges are successful alumni entrepreneurs, corporate leaders and business faculty. There will be a five-minute Q&A session for each finalist, and all will receive valuable feedback from the judges.

To learn more about the competition and awards, visit shu.edu/undergraduate-admissions/pirates-pitch-competition

High School Pirates Pitch helps develop and showcase entrepreneurial skills that align with the World Economic Forum's list of the top skills that professionals need to thrive in today's highly competitive and challenging business environment, including complex problem-solving, critical thinking, and emotional intelligence. The competition also introduces students to the Stillman School of Business, its Center of Innovation and Entrepreneurship, and the nationally ranked Center for Leadership Development (shu.edu/leadership-development) within the Buccino Leadership Institute.

For more information on this event and to apply, visit shu.edu/undergraduate-admissions/pirates-pitch-competition

SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

For more information, visit shu.edu.

(Mabel Pais writes on Social Issues, The Arts and Entertainment, Spirituality, and Health & Wellness)

UK ROYAL MINT'S 1ST GODDESS LAKSHMI GOLD BAR ON SALE

LONDON (TIP): The UK Royal Mint's first bullion bar range featuring Goddess Lakshmi as a celebration of Diwali went on sale on September 28.

The "Lakshmi" bar, a 20 gm gold bar with the Hindu Goddess of Wealth engraved intricately into the precious metal, was designed by Royal Mint designer Emma Noble and follows a close collaboration with the Shree Swaminarayan Temple in Cardiff on its intricate design.

The bar, retailing at 1,080 pounds, is described by the Royal Mint as reflective of its ongoing commitment to diversity and inclusion and an expansion of diverse cultural celebrations in the country.

"With gold being a traditional and auspicious gift during the Diwali festival, we wanted to develop a product that incorporates both beauty and tradition, but with a modern twist," said Andrew Dickey, Divisional Director for Precious Metals at the Royal Mint. "The bar is a shining example of this and we were delighted to work with Nilesh Kabaria of the Shree Swaminarayan Temple in Cardiff to ensure that we represent the Hindu Goddess of Wealth accurately and appropriately," he said. — PTI

FRANCE, GREECE SIGN DEFENCE AGREEMENT

PARIS (TIP): France and Greece on September 29 announced a multibillion euro defence deal, including Athens' decision to buy three French warships as part of a strategy to boost its defense capacities in the Eastern Mediterranean amid recurring tensions with longtime foe Turkey.

President Emmanuel Macron and Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis announced a defence and security strategic partnership in a joint news conference in Paris. "This partnership expresses our will to increase and intensify our cooperation in the defense and security sector based on our mutual interests," Macron said.

It will "help protect the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity of both states." Greece will purchase three French frigates to be built by defense contractor Naval Group in Lorient, in western France. (AP)

LAVA FROM SPAIN'S LA PALMA ISLAND ERUPTION REACHES THE ATLANTIC OCEAN

MADRID (TIP): A bright red river of lava from the volcano on Spain's La Palma island finally tumbled over a cliff and into the Atlantic Ocean, setting off huge plumes of steam and possibly toxic gases that required local residents outside the evacuation zone to remain indoors on September 29.

(AP)

German kingmakers open talks toward forming new government

BERLIN (TIP): The two parties that are expected to determine who will become Germany's next chancellor have started talks to bridge their differences and declared that they got off to a good start.

Sunday's parliamentary election left Germany's traditional big parties effectively needing the support of the third- and fourth-placed parties, the environmentalist Greens and the business-friendly Free Democrats, to take the top job after outgoing Chancellor Angela Merkel's 16-year reign.

The two smaller parties decided to talk to each other first before entertaining advances from bigger suitors. While they have some common ground, they have traditionally belonged to rival ideological camps and have different approaches to issues including the economy and fighting climate change.

In recent decades, the Greens have tended toward the centre-left Social Democrats of narrow election winner Olaf Scholz. The Free Democrats have tended toward Merkel's centre-right Union bloc, which finished second under would-be successor Armin Laschet — its worst-ever result.

In identical Instagram posts early Wednesday, Green co-leader Annalena Baerbock and Free Democrat leader Christian Lindner posted a picture of themselves with Baerbock's fellow Green leader Robert Habeck and the Free Democrats' general secretary, Volker Wissing.

"In the search for a new government,



we are sounding out common ground and bridges over things that divide us — and even finding some," the posts read.

"EXCITING TIMES."

THEY DIDN'T SAY HOW OR WHEN THEY WILL PROCEED OR GIVE ANY OTHER DETAILS. THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS HAVE SAID THEY WOULD LIKE TO START EXPLORATORY

TALKS AS EARLY AS THIS WEEK.

The only other combination of parties that would have a majority in parliament is a repeat of the often bad-tempered outgoing "grand coalition" of the two big parties, which neither of them wants.

Merkel's current coalition came about after the 2017 election when Lindner pulled the plug on talks on a possible alliance with the chancellor's Union and the Greens. —AP

YouTube shuts German channels of Russian broadcaster RT

BERLIN (TIP): YouTube has terminated the German channels of Russian state broadcaster RT in a move on alleged misinformation related to the coronavirus pandemic.

YouTube, which is owned by Google, said on September 29 that two channels were discontinued.

The company said in an email that RT DE had received a "strike" for uploading material that violated YouTube's standards on Covid-19 misinformation, and as a consequence was suspended from uploading new videos to its channel.

"During this suspension, RT DE tried to circumvent this restriction by using another YouTube channel to upload its videos," which resulted in both channels being shut for violating YouTube's conditions of use, it added.

Writing on the messaging app Telegram, RT Editor-in-Chief Margarita Simonyan called the move "a true media war" by Germany on



Russia.

"I'm looking forward to my native state banning Deutsche Welle and other German media in Russia without delay, as well as close the offices of ARD and ZDF," Simonyan said, referring to Germany's main public television stations. "Not to mention sanctions on YouTube."

The Russian Foreign Ministry said it would ask relevant government bodies to work up retaliatory measures against German media and YouTube, adding that such a response was "not

only appropriate, but also necessary".

Russia's state communications watchdog, Roskomnadzor, demanded that Google restore access to RT's YouTube channels and threatened the platform with fines and a ban if it fails to do so.

German security services have said they consider RT's German service to be a propaganda arm of the Russian state.

RT, previously known as Russia Today, provides its German offering online but so far hasn't been able to get a license to broadcast in Germany via a terrestrial or satellite signal.

Last month, Luxembourg rejected an application by RT for a license to distribute its German-language service via satellite. Authorities in the country concluded that Luxembourg wasn't the right jurisdiction to rule on the request because RT's German service is based in Berlin and a significant part of its workforce is in Germany. —AP

European Union eyes visa retaliation to halt migrant influx from Belarus

BRUSSELS (TIP): As allegations mount that Belarus is using migrants to destabilise the European Union, the bloc's executive branch proposed September 29 to tighten visa restrictions on members of President Alexander Lukashenko's regime.

The European Commission wants the 27 EU member countries to consider suspending parts of a "visa facilitation agreement" with Belarus that entered force in July 2020.

The deal was aimed at improving contacts and drawing the former Soviet country closer to Europe.

The proposal would hit Belarusian officials, including members of government, lawmakers, diplomatic delegations and top court representatives.

It would increase travel red tape and require them to provide extra documents and pay more for visas.

In recent months, EU members Poland and Lithuania have been forced



to cope with an unusually high number of migrants, primarily from Iraq and Afghanistan, arriving at their borders with Belarus.

Poland even introduced a state of emergency which it aims to extend soon for another 60 days.

The migrant influx began a year ago, after the EU slapped sanctions on

Lukashenko's government over the August 2020 presidential election, which the West views as rigged, and the security crackdown on the opposition and peaceful protesters that followed.

The visa move must be endorsed by the 27 EU member countries to enter force. (AP)

CHINA UNVEILS PLAN TO BRING ALGORITHMS OF ITS INTERNET INDUSTRY UNDER STATE CONTROL TO TIGHTEN CENSORSHIP

BEIJING (TIP): China on September 29 unveiled a three-year plan to bring the algorithms related to internet information services of its fast-growing web industry under state control.

Chinese regulators will strengthen the management of algorithms related to internet information services to foster "healthy" and "orderly" development of the industry, state-run Xinhua news agency reported.

A three-year campaign will seek to put in place a sound management mechanism and supervision system, and a standardised algorithm ecosystem, according to new guidelines issued by nine ministries or departments including the Cyberspace Administration of China.

The guidelines urged enterprises to strengthen their sense of responsibility and set up responsibility systems for algorithm security and sci-tech ethical review systems.

Legal violations and malpractices related to algorithms will be severely punished, the report said, citing guidelines.

The guidelines also called for efforts to prevent the abuse of algorithms, prohibiting activities that use them to tamper with public opinion, attack competitors and infringe upon the rights and interests of internet users.

Algorithms that are used as specifications for performing data processing, calculations, automated reasoning and other tasks have emerged as one of the most important assets of Chinese tech companies.

Internet companies in China have long been tasked with adjusting their algorithms to restrict users' access to information deemed inappropriate by the government while promoting those that are considered beneficial.

The operators of the most successful video platforms such as ByteDance's TikTok and anime-streaming service Bilibili rely on algorithms to continuously learn about the personal interests of their users and recommend relevant content or products to them, Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post reported.

Algorithms are considered so valuable that when the US government under then president Donald Trump pressured ByteDance to sell TikTok's US business last year, the Beijing-based tech unicorn had no intention to divest ownership of the app's source code in any deal, the Post quoted an official as saying. China has over 700 million internet connections and its biggest social media platform Weibo, akin to Twitter, had over 500 million subscribers. Over the years, Beijing had developed massive internet firewalls to control the content of the social media. (PTI)

Think tank finds Chinese aid to Pacific nations has declined

CANBERRA (TIP): China gave significantly less aid to Pacific island nations in recent years despite Beijing's diplomatic efforts to increase its influence in the region, according to a Sydney-based think tank.

Chinese aid to the Pacific shrank by 31 per cent in 2019 to USD 169 million, the Lowy Institute said in its annual Pacific Aid Map released Wednesday.

Only the World Bank pulled back more that year, but that had been expected after aid tripled between 2017 and 2018 through an extraordinary burst of investment, said Jonathan Pryke, Pacific Islands program director at the international policy think tank.

"There has been a consistent level of growing engagement from China in previous years and we've seen this sharp decline in 2019 which is against the narrative," Pryke said.

The map is a data base covering 66 donors and tens of thousands of aid projects in 14 Pacific island sovereign



nations, which exclude the French territories of New Caledonia and French Polynesia.

Data since 2019 including the impact of the pandemic are incomplete and are not included in the latest report.

Pryke said preliminary data since 2019 suggested that China's lowest contribution to the Pacific region since 2012 was not an anomaly.

"We've done some cursory analysis of 2020 on China as well and we haven't seen a bounce back," Pryke said.

International aid to the Pacific dropped by 15 per cent in 2019 to USD 2.44 billion.

The Lowy Institute expects data will

show contributions rose last year in response to the pandemic.

It is not clear why China pulled back from the Pacific since its aid to the region peaked at USD 287 million in 2016.

Chinese President Xi Jinping made a state visit to Papua New Guinea in late 2018 ahead of an Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation leaders' summit hosted by one of the most populous South Pacific island nations.

Two Pacific island nations, Kiribati and Solomon Islands, switched their diplomatic allegiances from Taiwan to Beijing in 2019 in a major regional win for the Chinese Communist Party.

The Pacific's traditional aid partners, the United States, Japan, Australia and New Zealand, have stepped up efforts to offer alternatives to China's Belt and Road Initiative infrastructure partnerships.

Pryke suspects Pacific nations now have more aid options and are seeking better deals than China offers. (AP)

AUSTRALIAN 'A BIT SORE' AFTER HAND WAS CAUGHT IN CROC'S JAWS

CANBERRA (TIP): An Australian wildlife tour operator said he was lucky to escape more serious injury or even death when a crocodile lunged from a river and clamped his hand in its jaws.

Sean Dearly was attacked on Monday on the Adelaide River which is renowned for its "jumping crocodiles" — large crocodiles that rise vertically from the

water to snatch chicken carcasses dangled from long poles extended from tourist cruise boats. The 60-year-old Dearly spoke Wednesday about his encounter with a young 2.2-meter (7-foot) crocodile. "I'm feeling all right. I'm a bit sore in the arm, of course, but, yeah, I survived it," he told Nine Network television. Dearly had his right hand and forearm in a cast, but did not detail his injuries. He had undergone surgery to repair a severed tendon in his hand, the Northern Territory News reported.

Dearly said he told the 18 tourists on

his cruise on Monday to keep their entire bodies inside the boat at all times for safety. He then did the opposite when he decided to retrieve a pole he had been using to feed meat to raptors and had dropped overboard. He was about to grab the pole and "immediately something lunged on to me," Dearly said. The crocodile remained clamped on to his arm as he drew back. "I've lifted a crocodile up and I've gone: 'My god, what have I got here?'" And I'm thinking: 'What are we going to do about this? It's hanging off my arm,'" Dearly said. (PTI)

JINNAH'S STATUE DESTROYED IN BALOCHISTAN BLAST

KARACHI (TIP): A statue of Pakistan's founder Mohammad Ali Jinnah has been destroyed by the Baloch militants in a bomb attack in the coastal city of Gwadar in the troubled Balochistan province. The statue, which was installed in June at Marine Drive — considered a safe zone — was blown up by explosives placed beneath the statue on September 26 morning. PTI

SRI LANKA TO END COVID LOCKDOWN ON OCTOBER 1 DESPITE WARNINGS BY MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS

COLOMBO (TIP): Sri Lanka will end its COVID-19 lockdown enforced last month on October 1, health minister Keheliya Rambukwella said on September 29, even as the medical professionals warned against the unrestricted re-opening of the country.

The lockdown that was imposed on August 20 following a spike in COVID-19 cases will be lifted at 4 am (local time) on October 1 and new guidelines aimed at curbing the further spread of coronavirus will be announced, he said.

"These conditions, to be announced by the health authorities, will be imposed to curtail movement of the people and curb further spread of the virus," Rambukwella said.

The announcement came as the Sri Lanka Medical Association (SLMA) warned that the unrestricted re-opening of the country will lead to a resumption of transmission.

"Because the prevailing case numbers are high, it is likely to lead to a more rapid rise of cases than previously, despite the high vaccine coverage" the SLMA said in a statement.

Following weeks of persuasion by the medical professionals, the government decided to impose lockdown in mid-August after the health facilities came under strain due the raging third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The COVID-19 death toll, which stood under 1,000 by the end of April, surged to nearly 13,000 by Tuesday.

Health officials have said there has been a decrease in the daily number of COVID-19 cases which had crossed 2,000-mark.

There were over 900 new infections on September 29 with 55 deaths confirmed on Monday, a drop from over 2,000 daily cases reported mostly in August.

PTI

22 Republican senators introduce legislation to impose sanctions on Taliban, countries supporting it

KABUL (TIP): 22 Republican senators have introduced legislation in the Senate to impose sanctions on the Taliban in Afghanistan and on all the foreign governments that support the hardline Islamic group that seized power in Kabul.

The 'Afghanistan Counterterrorism, Oversight and Accountability Act' was introduced by Senator Jim Risch, a ranking member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, on September 28.

The legislation also seeks a report from the Secretary of State about his assessment of the role of Pakistan in supporting the Taliban from 2001-2020; in the offensive that led to the toppling of the Government of Afghanistan and the looking into the Pakistan support for Taliban offensive against Panjshir Valley and Afghan resistance.

It also seeks a presidential report in identification of areas where the US can strengthen diplomatic, economic and defence cooperation with India to address economic and security challenges posed by China, Russia and the Taliban in the region, and an assessment of how the changes to India's security environment resulting from the Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan will affect US' engagement with India.

"We continue to see the grave implications of the Biden administration's haphazard withdrawal from Afghanistan," Risch said after introducing the bill on the Senate floor.

"An unknown number of American citizens and Afghan partners remain abandoned in Afghanistan under threat from the Taliban. We face a renewed terror threat against the United States, and the Taliban wrongly seek recognition at the United Nations, even as they suppress the rights of Afghan



women and girls," he noted.

The Taliban swept across Afghanistan last month, seizing control of almost all key towns and cities in the backdrop of withdrawal of the US forces that began on May 1. On August 15, the capital city of Kabul fell to the insurgents.

The Taliban claimed victory over opposition forces in the last holdout province of Panjshir on September 6, completing their takeover of Afghanistan three weeks after capturing Kabul.

The legislation introduced by the 22 senators also requires strategies for counterterrorism and for the disposition of Taliban-captured US equipment and sanctions the Taliban and others in Afghanistan for terrorism, drug-trafficking, and human rights abuses. It authorises sanctions on those providing support to the Taliban, including foreign governments.

It states that the United States should not recognise any member of the Taliban as the ambassador of Afghanistan to the United States or as the ambassador of Afghanistan to the United Nations. The legislation calls for a comprehensive review of foreign assistance to entities that support the Taliban.

The legislation further urges a report from the President on detailed description of the security and economic challenges that the Russian Federation, the People's Republic of China, and the Taliban pose to the countries of South and Central Asia, including border disputes with South and Central Asian countries that border China, investments China in land and sea ports, military activities and installations, transportation infrastructure, and energy projects across the region. — PTI

Six schools rebuilt with Indian grant inaugurated in Nepal

KATHMANDU (TIP): Six schools rebuilt in Nepal as part of India's USD 50 million grant assistance for reconstruction projects in the education sector following the 2015 earthquake were inaugurated on Wednesday in the Kavrepalanchowk district.

Anurag Srivastava, Joint Secretary (North), Ministry of External Affairs of India, jointly inaugurated six newly reconstructed schools along with Gokul Prasad Baskota, Member of Parliament of Nepal, Kavrepalanchowk-2 and Ganga Bahadur Tamang, Member of Parliament of Nepal, Kavrepalanchowk-1, and Dhurba Prasad Sharma, Executive Member, National Reconstruction Authority, Government of Nepal.

Speaking on the occasion, Srivastava highlighted that these six schools are excellent examples of courage and capacity of Nepali people to build back better and that India is honoured to be a promising development partner of Nepal.

India, as a close friend and neighbour has stood shoulder to shoulder with the people of Nepal in its efforts towards reconstruction, he said.

The six schools have been built under reconstruction grant assistance of the Government of India at a total cost of NPR 197 million (Rs 12,33,59,394), the Indian Embassy said in a statement.

The schools are part of the Government of India's commitment to

reconstruct educational institutions across eight districts affected by the earthquake under grant assistance of USD 50 million.

The eight beneficiary districts are Gorkha, Nuwakot, Sindhupalchowk, Ramechhap, Dolakha, Kavrepalanchowk, Dhading and Kathmandu.

Till date, the construction of 14 schools has been completed and the construction of 56 schools is ongoing.

A ground-breaking ceremony of Khopasi Primary Health Care Center (PHCC) in Panauti Municipality, Kavrepalanchowk was also held during the day. The health post is one of the 132 health posts being reconstructed under the Government of India's grant assistance of USD 50 million in the health sector. The PHCC is being reconstructed at a cost of NPR 75 million (INR 4,69,63,128). (PTI)

GOPIO Virginia

Proudly Presents

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE BANQUET

CELEBRATION OF 10TH ANNIVERSARY

GANDHI JAYANTI CELEBRATION

Our Special Guests:



Congressman Gerry Connolly | Congressman Don Beyer

Ambassador of Mauritius H.E. Purmanund Jhugroo

State Senator | Delegates

Other Invitees: Senator Tim Kaine | Indian Ambassador
and more...

03 OCTOBER 2021
6 PM - 9 PM

THE PROGRAM HAS REACHED ITS CAPACITY AND WE HAVE SOLD OUT OF TICKETS

Event will follow CDC guidelines

Proof of vaccination may be requested so we asked that you bring your vaccination card.

Organizing Committee:

Jay Bhandari, Vishnu Reddy, Vinita Tiwari, Shyamali Hauth, Sant Gupta, Ajay Gupta, Reena Gulati, Shweta Jain, Swati Sharma, Madhu P Sharma, Kushal Bhandari, Puja Khanna, Rani Sisodia, Suryakant Tovrekar, Danny Luck, Anshu Matalia, Himanshu Mehta, Nilima Mehra & Saddam Salim.

Ace the smokey-eye look with these simple steps

Admit it, you have wanted to try the smokey eye makeup for a while now, but haven't had the idea of where to start. For most people, makeup seems like a daunting task. But experts say that one has to simply start somewhere to be able to fall in love with it, and try new styles and trends every day.

This festive season, as you get ready to impress, keep these things in mind to ace the smokey-eye look which, Monica B, a makeup artist, explains requires "carefully and attentively-crafted strokes". Read on.

Make use of a quality eyeshadow base

It is important you don't compromise on the quality of the eyeshadow base or primer. In the absence of a primer, you may also use a light coloured concealer.

Remember, less is more

The look is much better and finer when it is created using two to three colours.

Blending is key

You must keep practising your blending skills from time to time.

Fuller look is usually better

Create a much fuller look using good quality lashes. Alternatively, you may use a quality mascara in case lashes aren't your thing.

Loose powder helps avoid fallouts

When you've already done your face, don't forget to pack your under eye with lots of loose powder which helps avoid any fallouts from the eyeshadow.



Follow these steps:

- Make use of an eyeshadow primer for smoother application. It will ensure that your shadow stays longer. Otherwise, you may use a concealer, which is a shade or two lighter than your skin tone. Besides, you may create a transition shade by applying a light coloured shadow on your crease.
- Now, apply a gel-based black shadow or gel kajal on the lash line. You may move slowly upwards till the crease and must keep blending so that it doesn't set or come off.
- Further, you may apply a dark tone shadow, preferably dark grey, and keep blending it halfway up to the lid. After that, you must apply kajal on both the upper and lower waterline.
- Now, take a dark shadow again and apply it on the lower lash line. You can smudge it outwards with a very fine and thin brush.
- Lastly, apply lashes or mascara to add dimension.

Source: Indian Express

FOOD CORNER

Paneer chilli grilled sandwich



Ingredients

6 slices of multigrain bread, 1/2 c paneer, chopped into small pieces, 1/4 c capsicum, 1/4 c broccoli, 1/4 c tomatoes, 1/4 c chilli sauce, 1/4 c pizza base sauce, 1/4 tsp pepper

Method

- Take a slice of bread, spread the pizza base sauce on it and sprinkle a generous amount of paneer cubes.
- Place bread over it and add cut vegetables, tomatoes, sprinkle a little chilli sauce, mustard sauce and pepper, spread it evenly on all sides.
- Cover it with another side of bread and grill until brown. Serve hot.

Brown rice and peas chiwra

Ingredients

1 cup brown rice chiwra (flattened rice), 1/2 c green peas, 1 tsp mustard oil, 2 green chillis, 1/2 tsp amchoor powder (mango powder), 1 tsp rock salt

Method

- Dry roast the poha in a kadhai. Heat oil in a pan, add green chillis.
- When they crackle, add peas and cook for 5 minutes. Add roasted chiwra. Add salt, mango powder and mix well. Serve hot with cardamom/lemon tea.



Windows are an important part of our house as they work as a visual aid as well as give an illusion of space. Windows can add to the overall feeling of wellness and happiness in your home, therefore, it is necessary to decorate them the right way. Read on to know how.

Keep The Windows Clean

First things first, if you want your windows to be shiny and be visually appealing, then it is necessary to clean them well. These need to be cleaned from inside as well as outside. Clean windows make guests feel welcomed.

People practicing Feng Shui believe that dirty windows cloud judgement and are an omen to financial decline. However, clean windows are believed to be awakening creative spirits and inviting opportunities.

Add Some Greenery

It is a good idea to line up your window ledge with small indoor plants, flowers and succulents. This is because the plants will fill up your place with positive energy and vitality.

Also, the more plants you have, the more likely you are to be healthy, both physically and mentally. This is



because they help in giving out fresh air by removing toxins from the air.

Ways To Beautify Your Windows

Place A Cabinet Or A Table Next To The Window

You can put up a visually appealing cabinet or a table next to the window and decorate it with several items. You can add flower vases, potted plants, picture frames, show pieces and many more. Also, you can hang some kind of art on the wall above the table such as paintings or wall hangings.

Also, you can have some options for soft light by placing a lamp or hanging a light bulb from the ceiling. The soft glow will give your place an enchanting appeal.

Drapes

All of us surely add curtains to our windows but you should replace them with drapes as they give a more formal look. These are made with a heavier fabric, are lined and pleated. They are hanged on a rod with a string so that they are easier to be opened or closed. You can use these in your living room, dining room and the bedroom.

Source: HerZindigi

Covid pandemic cut life expectancy by most since World War II: Oxford study

LONDON (TIP): The Covid-19 pandemic led to biggest decrease in life expectancy since the World War II, and wiped out years of progress on mortality, according to a study published by the University of Oxford.

The research team assembled an unprecedented dataset on mortality from 29 countries, spanning most of Europe, the US and Chile—countries for which official death registrations for 2020 had been published.

The study, published in the International Journal of Epidemiology, found that 27 of the 29 countries saw reductions in life expectancy in 2020, and at a scale which wiped out years of progress on mortality.

Women in 15 countries and men in 10 countries were found to have a lower expectancy at birth in 2020 than in 2015, a year in which life expectancy was already negatively affected by a significant flu season.

“For Western European countries such as Spain, England and Wales, Italy, Belgium, among others, the last time such large magnitudes of declines in life expectancy at birth were observed in a single year was during WW-II,” said study’s co-lead author Jose Manuel Aburto, from Oxford’s Leverhulme Center for Demographic Science (LCDS).

“However, the scale of the life expectancy losses was stark across most countries studied, with 22 countries included in the study experiencing larger losses than half a year in 2020,” Aburto said.

The researchers noted that females in eight countries and males in 11 countries experienced losses larger than a year.

It took on average 5.6 years for these countries to achieve a one-year increase in life expectancy



recently, while the progress was wiped out over the course of 2020 by Covid-19, they said.

Life expectancy, also known as period life expectancy, refers to the average age to which a newborn lives if current death rates continued for their whole life. It does not predict an actual lifespan.

Across most of the 29 countries, males saw larger life expectancy declines than females, according to the researchers.

The largest declines in life expectancy were observed among males in the US, who saw a decline of 2.2 years relative to 2019 levels, followed by Lithuanian males (1.7 years), they said.

“The large declines in life expectancy observed in the US can partly be explained by the notable increase in mortality at working ages observed in 2020,” said study co-lead author, Ridhi Kashyap from LCDS.

“In the US, increases in mortality in the under 60 age group

contributed most significantly to life expectancy declines, whereas across most of Europe increases in mortality above age 60 contributed more significantly,” Kashyap said.

The team’s analysis also shows that most life expectancy reductions across different countries were attributable to official Covid-19 deaths.

“While we know that there are several issues linked to the counting of Covid-19 deaths, such as inadequate testing or misclassification, the fact that our results highlight such a large impact that is directly attributable to Covid-19 shows how devastating a shock it has been for many countries,” Kashyap said.

“We urgently call for the publication and availability of more disaggregated data from a wider-range of countries, including low- and middle-income countries, to better understand the impacts of the pandemic globally,” she added.

Source: PTI



Top fruits for diabetics and why they’re good for you

Eating fruits is one of the most satisfying ways to tackle sweet-tooth cravings while meeting your nutritional needs. Despite many studies and research on fruit consumption in diabetes, there are a lot of speculations on the right kind of fruit consumption and its relation to blood sugar levels.

Eating seasonal and locally available fruit has many health benefits—ranging from reducing sugar and inflammation levels to fighting high blood pressure -- thanks to their abundant vitamins and mineral presence! They are a powerhouse of antioxidants like vitamins A, B, C, E, and minerals like iron, calcium, magnesium, and fiber.

The fruits listed below are not just diabetic-friendly but are loaded with fiber and water content which can slow down the sugar spikes and sugar absorption rate.

Apples are not just nutritious and filling; According to a study, they are significantly associated with a lower risk of type 2 diabetes if consumed in moderation. Turns out there is a truth in the old saying, “An apple a day keeps the doctor away”, after all! Avocados are a great source of healthy fats and more than 20 vitamins and minerals. They are high in fibers as well, and have been linked with lowering the risk of diabetes.

Berries: Adding berries is one of the best ways to add a variety to your diabetes-friendly diet. You can choose from blackberries, blueberries, or strawberries because all of them are power-packed with antioxidants, vitamins, and fibers.

Papaya is rich in natural oxidants, which makes it a perfect pick for people with diabetes. It reduces the chances of future cell damage.

Star fruit: This sweet and sour fruit is rich in dietary fiber and vitamin C. It also positively impacts anti-inflammatory processes and can help repair cell damage, and it has minimal fruit sugars as well.

Kiwi fruit is an excellent source of Vitamin E, K, and potassium, and they are low in fruit sugars as well, which makes it a perfect diabetic-friendly fruit.

Melons (Musk melon and watermelon): Powerful hydrating fruits like cantaloupe and melons are recommended for people with diabetes, and people with the risk of developing diabetes. Eat-in moderation for multiple nutritional benefits like fiber, potassium, magnesium, vitamin B, and C.

Source: IANS

Indian scientists working on 1st ever dengue DNA vaccine

The world’s first DNA vaccine was approved for use in India recently. Developed by the Ahmedabad-based Zydus Cadila, ZyCoV-D is, as the name indicates, is a vaccine against Covid-19. Now, some researchers believe the technology -- considered superior because DNA vaccines are easier to make and store, and, most importantly store an enormous amount of information -- can be used to develop a vaccine for another tropical disease, dengue, a viral infection transmitted by mosquitoes.

“We know that there are four serotypes of the virus, but what we



found was that there were genetic variations within the serotypes -- any sequence with over 6% difference is considered to be a

different genotype. So, the team created a consensus sequence that is the same across the genotypes as well,” said Dr Easwaran Sreekumar, senior scientist at Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology-Thiruvananthapuram and one of the corresponding authors of the yet-to-be peer-reviewed paper uploaded on MedRxiv.

With the DNA vaccine platform allowing them to pick pieces of genetic material that can be used in the vaccine, the researchers resorted to sequencing the virus from four regions in the country that report dengue cases and selecting the common parts.

Source: HT

PAGE SPONSORED BY

DR. SATISH AND GITANJLI ANAND



DR. SATISH ANAND
Former Chairman, Board of Trustees, AAPI National
E-Mail: sanandmd@gmail.com

GITANJLI ANAND
Former President, India Association of Long Island (IALI)
E-mail: gitanjlianand@gmail.com

Xbox gains new features with updated Edge browser

With its September Xbox update, Microsoft has brought the new, Chromium-based Edge browser to Xbox Series X/S and Xbox One consoles.

It supports a keyboard and mouse and will introduce new capabilities like access to Google Stadia, Discord, web apps and more, reports Engadget.

Microsoft started testing the Edge update on Xbox One and Xbox Series X/S earlier this year, but now it's coming to everyone.

Edge has been the default browser on Xbox One, but not the latest Chromium version that enables features like Google Stadia gameplay, the report said. It promises a "fast, secure and modern browsing experience right from your console," Microsoft wrote.

It's nearly identical to the desktop version, with features like vertical tabs, collections and syncing of settings, favourites, history, tabs and more to other signed-in devices. As Reddit users have noted, though, it is missing extensions -- so you won't be able to use an ad-blocker for now. With mouse and keyboard support, gamers will find it far easier to use productivity apps, the report said.

More importantly, you'll be able to play Google Stadia or Steam PC games with either a mouse and/or the Xbox controller. For now, there's no microphone support for live chats on Discord or other apps, according to The Verge.

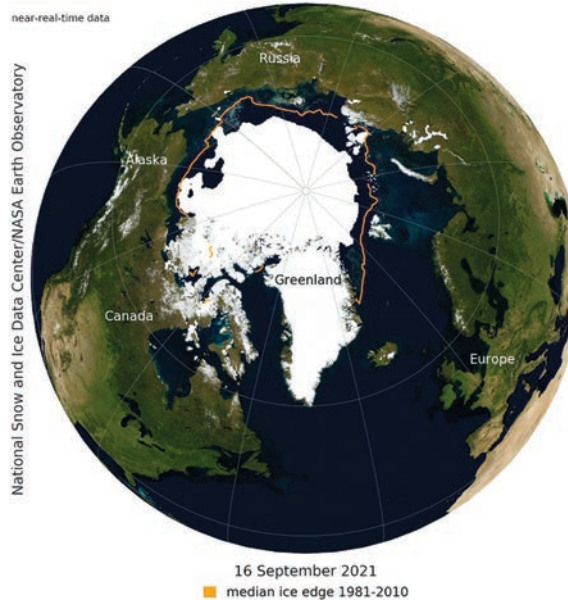
Arctic warming may be linked to shifting weather patterns in North America

A 420 foot long advanced U.S. Coast Guard icebreaker called Healy, designed for polar research, currently sails peacefully at the Baffin Bay, located between Baffin Island and the west coast of Greenland. This year's trip for Healy has not been a difficult one. Electrician master chief Mark Hulen, who traversed the Arctic from Seattle to Baltimore via the Northwest Passage, told the time.com: "We struggled with finding a good enough piece of ice to stand on. Nothing was thick enough."

The temperatures in the Arctic region have risen about twice as fast as global temperatures. The National Snow and Ice Data Center, at the University of Colorado, said that Arctic sea ice has hit its annual low on September 16.

A study published earlier this month had warned that this warming can lead to extreme cold events in parts of Asia and North America.

"The thick, so-called multiyear ice (sea ice that has survived through at least one summer) is almost gone. It used to fill most of the Arctic Ocean. This year the average ice thickness is near record-low values," says Jennifer A. Francis, Acting Deputy



Director and Senior Scientist at the Woodwell Climate Research Center, US in an email to indianexpress.com.

"The basic idea is that the rapid warming of the Arctic relative to areas farther south will reduce the north-south temperature difference. This temperature difference is the main force that creates the jet stream, a river of fast-moving wind that encircles the Northern Hemisphere at

altitudes where jets fly," explains Dr. Francis.

"Larger meanders connected with rapid Arctic warming and melting mean that weather conditions in North America and elsewhere around the Northern Hemisphere tend to linger longer, creating more prolonged heat waves, droughts, stormy periods, and cold spells," she explains.

When asked if India will see any abnormal weather patterns as a result of this rapid melting, she adds: "The northern part of India may experience more persistent weather conditions associated with Arctic warming, but the monsoon is influenced mainly by processes that work in the tropics."

One of the Chief Scientists on the Healy, Larry A. Mayer, Professor and Director at the School of Marine Science and Ocean Engineering, University of New Hampshire told the indianexpress.com via email that in addition to creating extreme weather events, the rapid Arctic warming can also make fisheries migrate north. "We are seeing permafrost melting leading to undermining of structures and coastal erosion, severe droughts in North America may also be related to the swings in the jet stream," he adds.

Source: Indian Express

Ancient footprints push back date of human arrival in the Americas

Ancient human footprints preserved in the ground across the White Sands National Park in New Mexico are astonishingly old, scientists reported Thursday, dating back about 23,000 years to the ice age.

The results, if they hold up to scrutiny, would rejuvenate the scientific debate about how humans first spread across the Americas, implying that they did so at a time when massive glaciers covered much of their path.

Researchers who have argued for such an early arrival hailed the new study as firm proof.

"I think this is probably the biggest discovery about the peopling of America in a hundred years," said Ciprian Ardelean, an archaeologist at Autonomous University of Zacatecas in Mexico who was not involved in the work. "I don't know what gods they prayed to, but this is a dream find."

For decades, many archaeologists have maintained that humans spread across North and South America only at the end of the last ice age. They pointed to the oldest known tools, including spear tips, scrapers and needles, dating back about 13,000 years. The technology was known as Clovis, named for the New Mexico town, where some of these first instruments came to light.

The age of the Clovis tools lined up neatly with the retreat of the glaciers. That alignment bolstered a scenario in which Siberian hunter-gatherers moved into Alaska during the ice age, where they lived for generations until ice-free corridors opened and allowed them to expand southward.

Apple releases iOS 12.5.5 for older iPhones, iPads

SAN FRANCISCO (TIP): The Cupertino-based tech giant Apple has started rolling out iOS 12.5.5 to older models of the iPhone and iPad.

"This update provides important security updates and is recommended for all users," Apple said in the release notes for iOS 12.5.5.

The update is available for the iPad Air, the iPad mini 2, and iPad mini 3, as well as the 6th gen iPod touch, iPhone 5s, iPhone 6, and iPhone 6 Plus. All of these devices were dropped from support with iOS 13.

The iOS 12.5.5 update addresses issues related to maliciously crafted PDFs, web content, and apps.

Apple had previously rolled out iOS 12.5.4 in June with security fixes for WebKit vulnerabilities and other issues. Apple has also started seeded the first betas of iOS 15.1 as well as iPadOS 15.1.

After removing SharePlay in iOS 15 beta 2, Apple has re-enabled the feature in the iOS 15.1, iPadOS 15.1, and tvOS 15.1 betas. Apple decided to pull SharePlay from the iOS 15 launch because it was not properly functioning and was still riddled with issues.

It adds features to the Health app like support for storing health-related data for Covid-19 immunisations and test results. With the latest iOS 15.1 Beta, one can now add vaccination cards to the Apple Wallet application.

iPhone 13 Apple Music bug fixed with new iOS patch

Tech giant Apple has released new support documents detailing fixes and widgets for two minor bugs in the company's new lineup of devices, including the iPhone 13.



Both bugs affect iPhone 13, ninth-generation iPad and iPad mini 6 models that have been restored from an iCloud backup.

The devices officially started arriving on customer doorsteps and store shelves, reports AppleInsider.

The first bug affects widgets, the report said. According to Apple, it has discovered an issue that causes widgets to revert to their default settings after an iPhone or iPad is restored from a backup.

Apple said the bug has only affected a "limited number" of iPhone 13, iPhone 13 mini, iPhone 13 Pro, iPhone 13 Pro Max, iPad 9 and iPad mini 6 models.

The company said there isn't a quick fix for the problem and users will need to manually edit their widgets.

Source: IANS

SEBI clears framework for setting up gold and social stock exchange

SEBI's Board on Tuesday cleared a proposal for setting up a gold exchange wherein the yellow metal will be traded in the form of electronic gold receipts and the bourse will help in having a transparent domestic spot price discovery mechanism. The instruments representing gold will be called Electronic Gold Receipts (EGRs) and will be notified as securities, SEBI Chairman Ajay Tyagi said at a press conference after the Board meeting. "EGRs will have the trading, clearing and settlement features akin to any other securities," he said. Any recognised stock exchange, existing as well as new, can launch trading in EGRs in a separate segment. The denomination for trading of EGR and conversion of EGR into gold can be decided by the stock exchanges with the approval of SEBI.

Indian digital payments at record high: Sitharaman

India is better than most of the world in the adoption of Fintech or automated financial services. "India's adoption rate is 87 per cent as against the global average rate of 64 per cent, which establishes the fact that India is a prime destination for digital payments and activities," said Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. Digital payments have seen a tremendous growth from Rs 2 lakh crore worth of digital transactions in 2019 to Rs 4 lakh crore in 2020. January to August 2021 saw further momentum, clocking Rs 6 lakh crore worth of digital transactions.

Crude nears USD 80/barrel

Petrol price on Tuesday was hiked by 20 paise per litre and diesel by 25 paise as international oil prices neared USD 80 per barrel mark for the first time in three years.

The price of petrol was hiked to Rs 101.39 a litre in Delhi from Rs 101.19 and to Rs 107.47 per litre in Mumbai, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers.

Diesel rates went to Rs 89.57 a litre in Delhi and Rs 97.21 in Mumbai.

Prices differ from state to state depending on the incidence of local taxes.

This is the first price increase in petrol in more than two months and the fourth in case of diesel.

Debt limit, bond yields and Delta hammer Wall Street

NEW YORK (TIP): It was a bad day for US stocks on Tuesday (Sept 28) as poor consumer confidence data, rising bond yields and fears of a debt default caused indices to sink sharply.

Trading started on a sour note when the Conference Board reported its US consumer confidence index slumped for the third straight month as the fast-spreading Delta variant of Covid-19 made Americans wary of economic conditions.

There was little apparent progress throughout the day in Washington, where lawmakers must approve both a resolution to keep the government running and an increase in the debt ceiling to prevent a default, which the Treasury warned could come around Oct 18.

The impasse fuelled a selloff on Wall Street, and the benchmark Dow Jones Industrial Average closed 1.6 per cent lower at 34,299.99.

The broad-based S&P 500 fell 2 per cent to 4,352.63, while the tech-rich Nasdaq Composite Index lost 2.8 per cent to 14,546.68.

Analysts at Wells Fargo pointed to an increase in yields on US Treasury bonds, saying they are "inciting a perceived 'risk off mood'".

The benchmark 10-year bond was yielding nearly 1.55 per cent shortly after markets closed.

Traders are looking ahead to Thursday's joint testimony before Congress by Treasury Secretary Janet



Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange on Sept 28, 2021. PHOTO: EPA-EFE

Yellen, and Federal Reserve chairman Jerome Powell. Yellen will likely again warn of the dire consequences of not raising the debt ceiling, and also face questions about President Joe Biden's twin proposals to overhaul US infrastructure and social services at the cost of trillions of dollars.

Powell may comment on the central bank's plans to cut back on its massive

monthly purchases of bonds and other securities, which was first implemented last year to help the economy as the pandemic began. That programme has been criticised for fuelling inflation, though last week, central bankers said it may "soon" be time to starting slowing them - which could cause market turbulence, as they are seen as helping equities prosper.

Source: AFP

Don't fill old water bottles with petrol: UK begs drivers queuing at gas pumps

Britain's transport minister Grant Shapp requested drivers on Tuesday to avoid filling up old water bottles with fuel at petrol pumps after the country went into panic fuel-buying mode. In recent days, motorists have queued up in lines and waited for hours to fill up fuel in their or in their water bottles, leaving pumps dry across major cities.

This act and frenzy has even prompted the government to put the army on standby at petrol pumps across cities. Serpentine lines of vehicles have been witnessed outside gas stations in the country after various oil firms reported that lack of drivers was causing transport problems from refineries to forecourts. However, the government has been clarifying that there is no shortage of fuel and people need to "behave normally".

Britain has put a limited number of military drivers on a state of readiness to be deployed to deliver fuel if necessary. Shapps also told citizens that there are hints of the situation easing as reserves at some gas stations had been replenished. "We're starting to see very tentative signs of stabilisation which won't yet be reflected in the queues," he told reporters.



Drivers queue for fuel at a petrol station in London. Long lines of vehicles have formed at many gas stations around Britain since Friday, causing spillover traffic jams on busy roads. (AP)

He also highlighted how queuing up in front of gas stations will not help the situation rather normalcy in buying habits will help thing get resolved quicker. "In particular, no more water bottles at petrol stations: its dangerous and not helpful," he said.

Incidents of fights breaking out at various petrol stations have been reported as motorists fought for fuel. There have also been calls for essential

service workers to be given priority in filling up their cars so that they can keep providing services at hospitals, etc.

There have also been massive traffic snarls reported from many parts as people looked for alternate routes to reach destinations without using up much fuel. Many people have also been seen pouring petrol or diesel into large canisters for emergency purposes.

Source: Reuters

Shree Ganeshaya Namah

VEDIC ASTROLOGER NASTUR
BEJAN DARUWALLA

**Nastur Bejan Daruwalla is available
for astrological consultations.
He can be reached at info@bejandaruwalla.com
and on phone
+91-9638770377
www.bejandaruwalla.com**

**The Indian Panorama brings you Weekly and Birthday
Horoscope by NASTUR BEJAN DARUWALLA**

WEEKLY HOROSCOPE - 4th Oct to 10th Oct 2021

Aries

This week you will have to hustle to get what you want. Your luck won't be bad but it won't be great either. Make sure you're taking good care of your health this week so that you can work as much as you want without getting fatigued. You will have to learn to say no to people and social events to focus on your work this week.

Taurus

You will go through a minor rough patch in business which will leave you upset at the beginning of the week. The people who you thought were your friends will make excuses and try to leave you to your own devices when they find out about your loss, it will still take you some time to fully realize who cares and looks out for you and who is with you for selfish reasons, focus on only yourself this week so that you can create a positive outcome at the end.

Gemini

This week is going to be super exciting for you. Positive news throughout the week itself will boost your confidence to a whole another level. This week is going to be full of excitement and unique experiences for you. You will go through a positive shift when it comes to your mental and physical health. This positive shift will help you to participate and indulge more in social events. You will have an overall very positive week.

Cancer

You will gain a lot of profit in your business this week which will set a great example for the entire week. You won't need to do things that you hate in terms of work anymore. You will have the time, space and affordability to follow your passion. Financial abundance is in your cards this week, which will keep you satisfied and happy throughout the week.

Leo

You will keep busy at work, your focus on your goal as well as your patience will be amazing. With the help of patience, you

might be able to achieve your goals on time. Your dedication to work will be rewarded many times. Expect some rewards as the result of hard work at the end of the week.

Virgo

Your business and finances will work out on their own this week, without you having to pay much time and attention. This is an ideal week for you to reflect on your professional progress. You have been through the worst year of your life and become the strongest person you have ever been. Some solace will do you good this week, as you have been ignoring your feelings by staying busy. You will receive a lot of love from your partner this entire week.

Libra

The positive highlight for you this week is you will gain a lot of clarity and insight into your love life. You will see your partner and their behaviour the way it is and not with your love glasses on like you have been for a while now. This will make it very easy for you to make decisions and will be fruitful for you. Your health will be better this week than it's ever been in a long time.

Scorpio

As you notice that your wellbeing improves over the past few weeks, challenges and changes arrive in your relationships. It's nothing that you can't handle if you chose to remain calm and peaceful. Focus on being kind caring and gentle and make way for a very long-lasting relationship. Your reputation will grow and spread far and wide this week. You will also gain victory in most of the deals taken this week.

Sagittarius

Your self-confidence is on the rise this week. You can be very productive this week tries to finish as much work as you can as you have an ample amount of positive energy this week. Don't let that energy go to waste, use it while it lasts. Which are your very own business and

yourself. High-intensity exercises will benefit you a lot this week. Your love life will be a little troublesome, but not as much as it seems to be at the moment. The best thing you can do is minimize your reaction and reflect on the situation when you feel you can have a neutral take on it. Your stars are in your favors this week.

Capricorn

You will have to stay disciplined when it comes to avoiding certain foods and maintaining a very strict eating schedule. You might want to focus on becoming the healthiest version of yourself this week. You will find it easy at the beginning of the week to stay motivated and on track but as the week passes by you will get bored with the food that you have to eat and the regimen that you have to follow, make sure you seek help but stay disciplined and save yourself from health issues.

Aquarius

This is an ideal week for you to reflect on yourself. You have been through a lot of challenges and become the strongest person you have ever been. Allow yourself time and space to relax and rest. A mini vacation will do you good this week, as you have been ignoring your health by staying busy. Your business and finances will work out on their own this week, without you having to pay much time and attention.

Pisces

Your week will bring in new opportunities. Positive energies are on the rise as the moon turns in your sign's favor this week. You might not make major financial gains but the fame and recognition you receive this week will mean much more to you than anything. Express your true feelings in front of your beloved. You will realize that after doing this, everything fits into place gradually throughout this week. Take extra care of your health this week as you need a lot of energy to focus on your work as well as manage to spend time with your loved ones.

BIRTHDAY HOROSCOPE : 4TH OCT TO 10TH OCT 2021

CONTD FROM PAGE 32

October 4

Let your intuitions guide you today. You are likely to face hardship in finishing all incomplete business projects. Be diplomatic and do not get into fights with anyone. Know how to get work done by other people. Today is favorable for your health and wellbeing but you will need to be cautious about your health. Sheer recklessness may get you in trouble and even in accidents, so do exercise with caution.

October 5

You're likely to enjoy more spontaneity in your love or social life. You're in good shape for social meetings and events. You're embracing the new, unusual, and out-of-the-ordinary with romantic involvements, pleasures and hobbies, and financial undertakings. Life seems to be working out in all aspects for you today. Seek out people who hold a zest for life and a search for deeper meaning.

October 6

Take a day off and spend as much time as you can with nature today. Enjoying in the lap of nature and soaking in some much-needed sunlight.

Watch for a tendency to pick and choose which cues from your environment to see and which ones to overlook.

October 7

Getting serious about your life today will help you achieve everything you want. If you try to progress gradually while taking care of your health as well. Remember to slowly increase the amount of exercise you get, and to introduce new activities gently. You will experience positive changes in your loved ones that you have wanted to see. While you strive to achieve your professional goals, you will receive support, empathy, and understanding. This is the part of your life that will be extremely beautiful today.

October 8

You will come across a lot of people today whose company you will thoroughly enjoy. Today is full of love and peace for you. Today is a great day for your love life as well. It would be good to love and most importantly be kind towards your partner today. You will have a good time with your partner if you do not ponder or converse on sensitive topics between the two of you. You have to imply some

unsaid rules if you want the relationship to go smooth today.

October 9

Today will be fruitful for you because of the confidence you have, but you have to stay focused and do not get involved in unproductive activities. Today luck is by your side in terms of work and finances hence to reap the full benefits of your good luck getting a lot of work done today. Your stars are in your favor when it comes to your health. Your health will not bother you today and does not need your time and attention. That doesn't mean you need not do anything and stay physically inactive.

October 10

You have been feeling upset for the past few days, today that feeling will change for the better as you start a journey towards self-love today. Expect positive surprises and a lot of appreciation from your partner. Just having an open conversation with your partner will make your day positive. You will be very grateful to have your partner today. Your partner will be your support system through all the loss and suffering.

|| SHREE GANESHAY NAMA ||



Know/Buy your Lucky Gemstones

From the House of Astrologer Bejan Daruwalla

To buy any Gemstone, visit www.BejanDaruwalla.com

Contact us for all kind of Astrology Services

Call/ Whatsapp +91 8141234275

Email: info@bejandaruwalla.com



World Famous Astrologer Bejan Daruwalla



Nastur Bejan Daruwalla

History This Week

October 1



Ford Model T

OCTOBER 1, 1908 - Henry Ford's Model T, a "universal car" designed for the masses, went on sale for the first time.

OCTOBER 1, 1946 - Twelve Nazi leaders were sentenced to death at the International War Crimes Tribunal in Nuremberg, Germany.

OCTOBER 1, 1949 - The People's Republic of China was founded with Mao Zedong as Chairman.

OCTOBER 1, 1979 - After 70 years of American control, the Panama Canal Zone was formally handed over to Panama.

BIRTHDAY - Virtuoso pianist Vladimir Horowitz (1904-1989) was born in Berdichev, Russia. He made his American debut in 1928 with the New York Philharmonic and became a U.S. citizen in 1944. In 1986, after a self-imposed absence of 60 years, he performed a concert in his native Russia.

October 2

OCTOBER 2, 1935 - Mussolini's Italian troops invaded Abyssinia, beginning an occupation lasting until 1941.

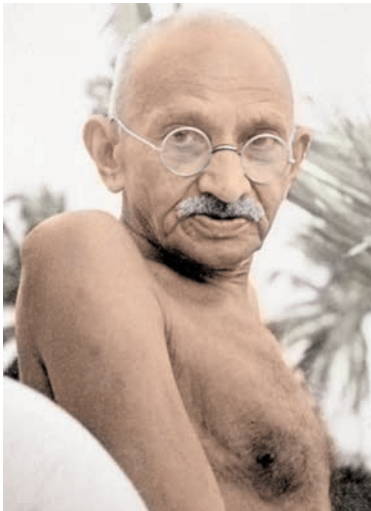
OCTOBER 2, 1967 - Thurgood Marshall (1908-1993) was sworn in as the first African American associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. He served until 1991 and was known for opposing discrimination and the death penalty, and for championing free speech and civil liberties.



Redwood National Park

OCTOBER 2, 1968 - California's Redwood National Park was established. Redwoods are the tallest of all trees, growing up to 400 feet (120 meters) during a lifetime that can span 2,000 years.

OCTOBER 2, 1975 - Japanese Emperor Hirohito made his first-ever visit to the White House.



Mahatma Gandhi

BIRTHDAY - Indian political and spiritual leader Mohandas (Mahatma) Gandhi (1869-1948) was born in Porbandar, India. He achieved worldwide fame for his devout lifestyle and nonviolent resistance which ended British rule over India. He was assassinated by a religious fanatic in the garden of his home in New Delhi on January 30, 1948.

BIRTHDAY - American statesman Cordell Hull (1871-1955) was born in Pickett County, Tennessee. He served in both houses of Congress, as Secretary of State, and was instrumental in the establishment of the United Nations.

October 3

OCTOBER 3, 1863 - President Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation designating the last Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day.

OCTOBER 3, 1929 - Yugoslavia became the official name of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.

OCTOBER 3, 1932 - Iraq gained independence from Britain and joined the League of Nations.

OCTOBER 3, 1974 - Frank Robinson was hired by the Cleveland Indians as baseball's first African American major league manager.

OCTOBER 3, 1990 - After 45 years of Cold War division, East and West Germany were reunited as the Federal Republic of Germany.

October 4

OCTOBER 4, 1582 - The Gregorian Calendar took effect in Catholic countries as Pope Gregory XIII issued a decree stating the day following Thursday, October 4, 1582, would be Friday, October 15, 1582, correcting a 10-day error accumulated by the Julian Calendar. Britain and the American colonies adopted the

Gregorian Calendar in 1752.

OCTOBER 4, 1830 - Belgium gained its independence, after having been a part of the Netherlands since 1815.



Sputnik 1 Launch

OCTOBER 4, 1957 - The Space Age began as the Russians launched the first satellite into orbit. Sputnik I weighed just 184 lbs. and transmitted a beeping radio signal for 21 days. The remarkable accomplishment by Soviet Russia sent a shockwave through the American political leadership resulting in U.S. efforts to be the first on the moon.

OCTOBER 4, 1965 - Pope Paul VI became the first Pope to visit the U.S. and the first to address the United Nations.

OCTOBER 4, 1993 - Russian tank-soldiers loyal to President Boris Yeltsin shelled the Russian White House, crushing a hardline Communist rebellion. Yeltsin then fired Vice-president Alexander Rutskoi and jailed other opposition leaders.

BIRTHDAY - St. Francis of Assisi (1181-1226) was born in Assisi, Umbria, Italy (as Giovanni Francesco Bernardone). He renounced his family's wealth and founded the Friars Minor (Franciscan Order).

BIRTHDAY - Rutherford B. Hayes (1822-1893) the 19th U.S. President was born in Delaware, Ohio. He served from March 4, 1877 to March 3, 1881. He was a Republican best known for his much-quoted statement, "He serves his party best who serves his country best."

BIRTHDAY - Artist Frederic Remington (1861-1909) was born in Canton, New York. He studied at Yale Art School then traveled extensively throughout the American West in the late 1800s sketching cowboys, Native Americans, frontiersmen, and soldiers. He also created lively sculptures featuring bucking broncos.

October 5

OCTOBER 5, 1813 - Shawnee Indian Chief Tecumseh was defeated and killed during the War of 1812. Regarded as one of

the greatest American Indians, he was a powerful orator who defended his people against white settlement. When the War of 1812 broke out, he joined the British as a brigadier general and was killed at the Battle of the Thames in Ontario.

OCTOBER 5, 1908 - Bulgaria proclaimed its independence from the Ottoman Empire.

OCTOBER 5, 1910 - Portugal became a republic following a successful revolt against King Manuel II.

OCTOBER 5, 1938 - Czech President Dr. Eduard Benes resigned and fled abroad amid threats from Adolf Hitler.

OCTOBER 5, 1964 - The largest mass escape since the construction of the Berlin Wall occurred as 57 East German refugees escaped to West Berlin after tunneling beneath the wall.

OCTOBER 5, 1986 - Former U.S. Marine Eugene Hasenfus was captured by Nicaraguan Sandinistas after a plane carrying arms for the Nicaraguan rebels (Contras) was shot down over Nicaragua. This marked the beginning of the "Iran-Contra" controversy resulting in Congressional hearings and a major scandal for the Reagan White House after it was revealed that money from the sale of arms to Iran was used to fund covert operations in Nicaragua.

BIRTHDAY - Theologian Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758) was born in East Windsor, Connecticut. He led the "Great Awakening" religious revival in the American colonies and later became president of Princeton.

BIRTHDAY - Chester A. Arthur (1830-1886) the 21st President of the U.S. was born in Fairfield, Vermont. He succeeded to the presidency following the assassination of James A. Garfield. He served from September 20, 1881 to March 3, 1885, but was not nominated by the Republican Party for a second term.

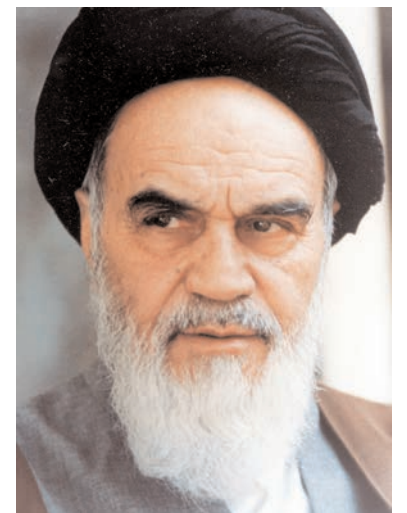


Robert H. Goddard, Father of the Space

BIRTHDAY - "Father of the Space Age" Robert Goddard (1882-1945) was born in Worcester, Massachusetts. During his lifetime he was ridiculed by the public and the press over his idea of constructing a space flight machine. In 1926, he launched the world's first liquid-fueled rocket on a farm near Auburn, Mass. In 1935, his liquid-fueled rocket surpassed the speed of sound. Other developments included a steering apparatus for rocket machines, staged rockets to reach high altitudes, rocket fuel pumps, and a self-cooling rocket motor.

BIRTHDAY - Czech playwright and political leader Vaclav Havel was born in Prague, October 5, 1936. He spent over 5 years in prison for speaking out against government abuses. He went on to lead the peaceful "velvet revolution" which ended Soviet-style Communism in Czechoslovakia in 1989.

October 6



Ayatollah Khomeini

OCTOBER 6, 1978 - Iranian religious leader Ayatollah Khomeini was granted asylum in France after being expelled from Iran for his opposition to the Shah.

October 7



Achille Lauro

OCTOBER 7, 1985 - Palestinian terrorists seized the Italian passenger ship Achille Lauro carrying about 440 persons, threatening to blow it up if Israel did not free 50 Palestinian prisoners. Leon Klinghoffer, an elderly wheelchair-bound American, was murdered.

Navratri is a nine days festival dedicated to Goddess Durga. Navratri is a Sanskrit word which literally means nine nights. During these nine nights and ten days, Goddess Durga is worshipped in 9 different forms, known as Navdurga. The tenth day is celebrated as Vijayadashami when idols of Goddess Durga are immersed into the water body.

Navratri is celebrated in most Indian states. However Navratri is very popular festival in the western states of Gujarat, Maharashtra and the southern state of Karnataka. On the very first day of Navratri, Goddess Durga is invoked into a Kalash with full Vedic rituals along with chanting of Mantras. The invocation and dwelling of Goddess Durga into the Kalash is known as Ghatasthapana or Kalashsthapana and is done at an appropriate time of the day.

In West Bengal Navratri is celebrated as Durga Puja. In West Bengal, Goddess Durga is worshipped on the last three days of Navratri and these three days are famously known as Durga Saptami, Durga Ashtami and Durga Navami. It would be correct to say that Durga Puja in West Bengal is a smaller version of 9 days Navratri. Kalparambha and Bilva Nimantran during Durga Puja, which is done on the sixth day of Navratri, is symbolically same as Ghatasthapana or Kalashsthapana in other states.

Hindu religious books suggest 7 days Navratri, 5 days Navratri, 3 days Navratri, 2 days Navratri or even 1 day Navratri as an alternative to 9 days Navratri.

Jyoti Kalash, Kumari Puja, Sandhi Puja, Navami Homa, Lalitha Vrat and Chandi Path are other famous rituals and events which are observed during 9 days Navratri.

Navratri literally means 'nine nights' and it is one of the most significant Hindu festivals that will be observed from October 7th this year. This auspicious occasion will last till October 15th.

On October 15/16, Vijayadashami also known as Dussehra will be celebrated. It marks the end of Navaratri every year. During Navaratri, devotees worship nine forms of Goddess Durga namely Shailaputri, Brahmacharini, Chandraghanta, Kushmanda, Skanda Mata, Katyayani, Kalaratri, Mahagauri, and Siddhidatri.

Navratri 2021 Dates

- On October 7, on Pratipada tithi, Ghatasthapana and Shailputri Puja will be performed.
- On October 8 on Dwitiya tithi, Brahmacharini Puja should be performed.
- On October 9 on Tritiya and Chaturthi, Chandraghanta Puja and Kushmanda Puja should be performed.
- On October 10 for Panchami tithi Skandamata Puja should be performed.
- On October 11, for Sashti tithi Katyayani Puja should be performed.
- On October 12, Saptami tithi, perform Kalaratri Puja
- On October 13, Ashtami tithi perform Maha Gauri Puja
- On October 14, Navami tithi perform Siddhidhatri Puja
- On October 15, Dashami tithi perform Navratri Parana/Durga Visarjan

Significance

It is believed that Lord Shiva granted permission to his wife Goddess Durga for seeing her mother for just nine days. During that time, Goddess Durga demolished demon Mahishasura. Hence Goddess Durga aka Kali is represented as a symbol of shakti – the ultimate strength. It is also said that Maa Durga has eternal divine power, which can never be created nor destroyed.

Importance

Throughout the nine nights, nine forms of the goddess are worshiped with much grandeur. On the 10th day, which is October 8 this year, people celebrate Vijayadashami means Dusshera by burning huge effigies of Ravana, Meghnad and Kumbhakarna. Thus, Navratri itself symbolises victory over evil.

Celebrations

During these nine nights of Navratri, people observe fast. Cultural programs are organised, people depict the story of Lord Rama. On the eighth day, Kanya Pujan is observed in which minor girls are worshipped and

Ashwin Navratri



offered prashad, food and sweets. All over the country Dandiya and Garba programmes are organised by community people.

Durga Puja

Predominantly celebrated in the states of West Bengal, Assam, Tripura, Odisha, and Bihar, Durga Puja happens to be one of the biggest festivals for Bengalis. The festival celebrates Goddess Durga's triumph over the demon, Mahishasura. Though it's a 10-day festival, the last five days are considered to be the most significant ones. Other than Goddess Durga, deities of Saraswathi, Lakshmi, Ganesha, and Karthik are also worshipped.

This year, Durga Puja will begin on Monday, 11 October, and end on Friday, 15 October.

Significance of Durga Puja

As per Hindu mythology, the festival marks Goddess Durga's visit to her natal home along with her children. Durga Puja is preceded by Mahalaya, which marks the beginning of Durga's journey to her home. The actual puja starts from "Maha Sashti" or the sixth day where devotees welcome the Goddess with pomp and gusto. On this day, Durga's deity is unveiled in front of the public. Several rituals are performed while the "dhakis" keep the mood and spirit of the puja alive by playing the "dhak"—a kind of drum that's associated with the puja and Bengali culture.

The 7th day marks the commencement of "Maha Saptami". On this day, just before dawn, a banana tree is immersed in the water as a part of the ritual. After the ceremonial bath, the tree or "Kola Bou" (as called in Bengali) is draped in a saree, usually a red-bordered one, and placed on the right-side of Ganesha, thereby implying that "Kola Bou" is actually the bride of Ganesha. However, several cultural revisionists and historians have different views on this as some believe that "Kola Bou" is another representation of Durga. Hence, they refute the theory that "Kola Bou" is the bride of Ganesha.

Another different view is that "Kola Bou" is a symbolic representation of nine types of plants that form a sacred complex. Priests tie a bunch of eight plants on the trunk of the banyan tree before performing the ritual. The nine different leaves combined together form "Kola Bou"—often considered as the plant form of Durga.

"Maha Ashtami" marks the 8th of the puja and is considered as the day when the Goddess defeated "Mahisasura". Prayers are offered in the form of "Anjali" while feasts are organised in different localities. Khichdi and other delicacies are prepared on this day.

The 9th day is dubbed as "Maha Navami". As soon as the "Sandhi Puja" ends, Maha Navami commences. Maha Aarti is performed as a closing ritual. Huge queues are common on this day as people flock in to take part in "Maha Aarti".

The 10th day or "Maha Dashami" marks the final day of Durga Puja. On this day, Durga and the other deities are immersed in the river Ganga. Before the immersion, married women take part in "Sindoor Khela" where they smear vermilion on each other's faces. On the day of immersion, also called "Visarjan", huge processions are common. People dance and cheer on the road to celebrate the spirit of the puja. After the immersion, a typical custom is followed where people visit their relatives' house to wish "Bijoya Dashami".

PAGE SPONSORED BY

ARISH K. SAHANI

Serving Since 1972

Please Call or Write for Your Insurance Needs

Arish K Sahani (Father)

Shiv Sahani (Son)

Priya Sahani Sood (Daughter)

718 - 271 - 1906



arish.sahani@gmail.com

"If Hindus don't maintain Hinduism, who shall save it?"

"If India's own children don't cling to their faith, who shall guard it?"

"Indians alone can save India, and India and Hinduism are one."

R & R Dental Lab

86-24 Whitney Ave. Elmhurst, NY 11373

Tel. (718) 533-1611; (347) 808-7258

Email: rbarua1953@gmail.com



- We make all kinds of Acrylic, Metal and Flexite Dentures, applying high quality technology by experienced technicians.
- We repair, reline night guards etc.
- We do delivery and pick up. Quick delivery on the same day.
- EMERGENCY new dentures SAME DAY service

We are in Dentures Work for the last 40 years.
We GUARANTEE full satisfaction



SONU INSURANCE AGENCY INC.

Insurance, Money Transfer, Tax Preparation

Specializing in:

- Auto ● Home ● Business
- Construction
- Workers Compensation

TAX PREPARES- PERSONAL RETURNS (1040)

MONEY TRANSFER: Send money to India, Pakistan, Bangladesh



MASTER MOHINDER SINGH
Licensed Real Estate Salesperson
Licensed Mortgage Loan Originator
Cell: 646-523-5092

CALL TODAY
OPEN 9 AM to 6 PM

113-09 101st Avenue (Opposite Gurdwara),
Richmond Hill, NY 11419

Phone: 718-847-1878/ 1885 Fax: 718-847-1879

Email: sonuinsurance@yahoo.com



77 North Broadway Hicksville, NY 11801

127-24 101 Ave. Richmond Hill, NY 11419

(516) 932-3400

www.hprealty1.com

- **Residential & Commercial Real Estate**
 - Single Family, Multi-family, Investment properties
 - Hotels/Motels, Gas Stations, Restaurants
 - Relocation Assistance - brokers licensed in
 - New York and Indiana
- **Insurance Services**
 - Home Life and Health
- **Mortgages** (provided by affiliate lenders)
 - New Purchase Refinance
 - Hard Money Loans Business/SBA Loan

ARE YOU BEHIND ON YOUR MORTGAGE PAYMENTS?

IS THE BANK GIVING YOU A HARD TIME FOR MORTGAGE DEFERRAL OR FORBEARANCE?

STOP FORECLOSURE!

CALL THE EXPERTS AT HP REALTY FOR MORTGAGE RELIEF ASSISTANCE



Pal Singh Dhillon

Licensed Real Estate Broker
QA Software Engineer, E-Pro Certified
Notary Public

(516) 304-2630

hprealty1@gmail.com

Jeet Dhillon

Licensed Real Estate Broker
New York and Indiana

(516) 830-0352



Rameshwaram: The Temple City

The perfect confluence of traditional legacy and natural adornments, the holy town of Rameswaram is placed perfectly on the Pamban Island. Even if you are not a religiously-inclined traveller, a visit to Rameswaram will leave you spiritually stirred and surprised. Primarily a pilgrimage site known for its gorgeous Hindu temples, this tiny fishing town in the southern state of Tamil Nadu is blessed with picturesque beaches, unrivalled underwater natural wonders, a sanctuary for birds, and so much more. To discover the destination in its glorious entirety, here are the places we recommend you should see:

Ramanathaswamy Temple

Hindu devotees flock to the Ramanathaswamy temple as part of their Char Dham yatra. Built in the 17th century, this temple dedicated to Lord Shiva is an architectural wonder housing one of the longest and largest pillared corridors in the world. There are over 1200 grand columns, each of which is beautifully carved and painted with a lion figure. Besides, the temple is also known for its Dravidian-style architecture and twelve ponds.

After you seek blessings at the temple, set on a stroll to the Agni Teertham. Take a holy dip here and catch the breathtakingly beautiful sunset and the orange-hued sky.

Hanuman Temple

This temple is a short distance away from the Ramanathaswamy Temple, and features a five-faced Hanuman idol. Devotees are known to smear the statue with sindoor or vermilion. The statue is perpetually covered in sindooram, a saffron coloured powder. Religious connotations aside, another thing to marvel at are the stones that mysteriously float on water. These are believed to be the same stones that were used to build the bridge from India to Lanka for Lord Rama by his monkey army.

The temple is situated in close proximity to Rameswaram's most popular museum called 'House of Kalam'. The museum traces the life and works of the iconic scientist and humanitarian APJ Abdul Kalam and makes for a worthy visit.

Dhanushkodi Temple

Years ago, a cyclone hit Dhanushkodi and destroyed most of the Kothandaramaswamy Temple that has been elaborately described in the ancient texts of Ramayana. Today, in this island town located at the south-eastern part of Pamban, the temple's ruins holding statues of Rama, Lakshman, Sita and Hanuman still continue to draw visitors from far and wide.

Dhanushkodi and Ariyaman Beach

There are two beaches in Ramanathapuram that warrant a visit for every tourist — the Dhanushkodi beach and Ariyaman beach. At one hand where Dhanushkodi beach offers a tranquil and refreshing time, the latter is where the action is. Go boating and enjoy water sports such as parasailing. If travelling with children, Ariyaman beach also has a children's park, an aquarium and a museum. Dhanushkodi beach, on the other hand, is bordered by the Bay of Bengal and Indian Ocean on either side. With gentle waves lapping the shore, this beach is a perfect getaway for those looking to stay away from the crowds and spend some time in solitude. This town has a population of merely 500 fishermen and their families.

Pamban Road and Rail Bridge

Probably India's first sea bridge, Pamban Bridge or



Annai Indira Gandhi Road Bridge on Palk Strait connects Rameswaram Island with the mainland. The rail bridge and road run parallel with the former boasting a functional double leaf bascule section midway to allow ships through. The bi-lane road, on the other hand, offers uninterrupted views of the azure waters and the 100-year-old cantilever railway bridge. A long drive on this track ensures a scenic experience.

Rama Setu

While the religious debates may continue for many years to come, tourists should visit the Rama Setu or Adam's Bridge' to see the beautiful collection of limestone shoals arranged in a chain starting from Rameswaram's Dhanushkodi tip, all the way into the ocean. The bridge connects the Pamban island to the Mannar island of Sri Lanka.

Water Bird Sanctuary

Birdwatchers must visit Rameswaram to witness native and migratory birds in the city's water bird sanctuary. October to January are the perfect months to visit when they come here in large numbers for breeding and feeding. The sight of the flocking birds is one to behold. Carry along your camera to capture some beautiful wildlife shots here.

How to Reach?

Rameshwaram city is less than 200 kilometres from the city of Madurai in Tamil Nadu, reachable via flight from most major cities in India. Alternatively, book yourself a seat on a train going to the Rameshwaram Railway Station. But the best way to this southern city is via the road while enjoying a picturesque and refreshing drive.

Source: Makemytrip

contd from page 1

PM Modi had a very successful visit to US, says Ambassador Sandhu

The two leaders had earlier met in 2014 and 2016 when Biden was the vice president of the country.

"So, it was not the first time they were meeting, but the bilateral meeting was very good," Sandhu said in his first public appearance after last week's visit of PM Modi.

The interaction with Vice President Kamala Harris went very well, he said.

The Quad summit hosted by Biden at the White House and attended by Modi along with their counterparts from Japan and Australia "really went off very well", he said.

"There was a good candid and substantial exchange between all the four leaders," he said, adding that there are practical areas in which the corporation is moving quite ahead.

"In fact, in vaccines, all the four countries are bringing their respective strengths together and we are on our way to producing one billion vaccines in 2022 which will be distributed over the Indo-Pacific particularly in Southeast Asia," Sandhu said.

During his stay in Washington DC, Prime Minister Modi had two other bilaterals with Prime Minister Scott Morrison from Australia and Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga of Japan.

During his trips, the US handed over 150 historic antiquities to India, which the prime minister took with him on his return to India.

From Washington DC, the Prime Minister went to New York where he addressed the UN General Assembly.

Quickly running through some of the important areas during the trip in addition to the strategic ones, Sandhu said the prime minister had a good exchange on regional issues as well as other international challenges. (Source: PTI)

All eyes are on West Bengal by-polls

forces in the three constituencies, of which 35 are stationed in Bhabanipur alone, the officials said.

Prohibitory orders under Section 144 of the CrPC have been imposed within 200 meters of the polling centers.

Long queues were seen since early morning outside several booths across the constituencies. Voting will continue till 6 pm.

The polling centers have been stocked up with masks and sanitizers as part of the Covid guidelines, the officials said.

Banerjee, who is also the Trinamool Congress supremo, is pitted against BJP's Priyanka Tibrewal and CPI(M)'s Srijib Biswas in Bhabanipur.

(Source: PTI)

New York State Takes Action to Address School Bus Driver Shortage

with traditional and non-traditional commercial driver's licenses; expanding CDL testing opportunities and expediting processes designed to get more drivers into school buses, she said.

New York State is launching outreach to more than 550,000 CDL license holders, she said.

According to NY1.com, the shortages were sparked by the pandemic; many drivers who are older left their positions over COVID-19 fears; districts are now facing shortages of 15 to 20 percent. The post added that many did not know until recently that a state mandate to vaccinate or test school employees would include school bus drivers. The shortages have forced schools who have routes uncovered to seek alternatives, including asking parents to pick up their kids, the NY1 report said.

Steps for the long term include changes in regard to the training and licensing of drivers, as well as broader recruitment efforts, Hochul said.

"Our schools and public health officials have moved mountains to ensure our children receive an in-person education this year, and we are leaving no stone unturned to make sure schools have adequate bus service to bring students to school and back," Hochul said.

The shortage of school bus drivers is not unique to New York State, but the goal is to use "creative approaches" to get bus drivers into place as soon as possible, she said.

Creative approaches to recruitment include signing and retention bonuses, expansion of benefits to the drivers, and other options to recruit drivers in a nationally competitive market, Hochul said; schools can use federal funds to provide the benefits.

Interested drivers will be surveyed and their information then shared with local school districts seeking drivers; the schools will work through lists to recruit interested drivers in their areas, Hochul said.

The state will also target currently unemployed drivers through the Department of Labor and work with law enforcement, firefighters, military, and other organizations that have trained drivers in order to find more school bus drivers, Hochul said.

The New York State Department of Motor Vehicles is also removing the 14-day waiting period between the permit test and the road tests; through cooperation with county-run DMVs the state will also help to increase capacity to administer written exams and road tests.

New York State is also opening new CDL driver testing sites by partnering with the State University of New York, the Thruway Authority, the New York Racing Association, and the Office of General Services to use large lots on their various sites for the road test. For school staff who currently hold a CDL, the state will set up expedited testing to obtain a permit to drive vans and buses temporarily, Hochul said.

Other plans include exploring alternative licensing entities and expanded partnerships with other state agencies, Hochul said.

Many school districts receive a significant percentage of those funds in reimbursement from the state and can therefore offer more competitive pay without absorbing the full cost at the local level, she said.

contd from page 13

Sikh-American officer allowed to wear a turban with limitations may sue: Report

Marine Corps. On Thursday, September 23, he also got to put on the turban of a faithful Sikh," the report said.

Lt. Toor's turban is a first in the 246-year history of the Marine Corps, which has almost never allowed deviations from its hallowed image, the report said.

"I finally don't have to pick which life I want to commit to, my faith or my country. I can be who I am and honor both sides," Lt. Toor said in an interview.

When Lt. Toor was promoted as Captain this spring, he decided to appeal.

Lt. Toor's case is the latest in a long-running conflict between two fundamental values in the United States military: "the tradition of discipline and uniformity, and the constitutional liberties the armed forces were created to defend," the report said.

However, Lt. Toor, who grew up in Washington and Ohio and is the son of Indian immigrants, has been allowed to wear the Turban while on duty with limitations. He "can wear a turban in daily dress at normal duty stations, but not while deployed to a conflict zone, or when in dress uniform in a ceremonial unit, where the public could see it."

The report said Lt. Toor has appealed the restrictive decision to the Marine Corps commandant, and he says that if he does not get a full accommodation, he will sue the Corps.

"We've come a long way, but there is still more to go," he said in the report. "The Marine Corps needs to show it really means what it has been saying about strength in diversity - that it doesn't matter what you look like, it just matters that you can do your job."



The Corps has maintained "uniformity was as essential to a fighting force as well-oiled rifles".

"In order to build squads that will move forward in a combat environment where people are dying, a strong team bond is required," Col. Kelly Frushour, a spokeswoman for Marine Headquarters, said in written responses to The Times on Lt. Toor's case. "Uniformity is one of the tools the Corps uses to forge that bond. What the Corps is protecting is its ability to win on the battlefield, so that the Constitution can remain the law of the land."

Lt. Toor's request to wear the turban went all the way to "top Marine Corps authorities". Their initial response in June was largely a denial of his request, the report said.

"In a stern response, one Marine Corps general warned that individual expression of that kind could fray the fabric of discipline and commitment that binds the Marines. It could erode the nation's trust in the Corps. It could undermine combat effectiveness. It could cost lives," the report said.

"The Corps cannot experiment with the components of mission accomplishment," Lt. Gen. David A. Ottignon, the deputy commandant for manpower and reserve affairs, said in the response. "Failure on the battlefield is not an acceptable risk," he added.

Lt. Toor said the limits meant, "I would have to either sacrifice my career or my ability to practice my religion".

Lt. Toor appealed to the commandant of the Marine Corps, and the Corps agreed partially, allowing him to wear the turban with certain limitations, according to the report.

The report said that nearly 100 Sikhs currently serve in the Army and Air Force wearing full beards and turbans.

Lt. Toor had joined the US Marines after college in 2017, "knowing he would at least initially have to forgo the physical symbols of his faith", but he was willing to make the sacrifice.

"I felt there was a debt to be paid. My family came to this country seeking the American dream, and we got it," he said in the report.

Lt. Toor expressed worry that a tough position on beards and turbans in the Marine Corps will make Muslims, Sikhs and others less likely to serve in the force, the report said.

"Sikh kids growing up might not be able to see themselves in uniform. Even if they want to serve, they might not think their country wants them," he said in the report.



Meg Lanning, Australia captain and Mithali Raj, India captain.

India, Australia renew Test rivalry

A fighting performance in the ODIs has given the Indian women's cricket team the much-needed shot of confidence. Now, the team shall go through a trial by fire when they make their Day-Night Test debut against Australia in the one-off game beginning here tomorrow Sept 30.

With the third ODI held on Sunday and the following day being a rest day, the Mithali Raj-led squad have had only two practice sessions in the lead-up to the landmark Test. The visitors lost 2-1 in the ODI series.

The squad has very little idea about how the shiny pink ball will behave during the course of the game at the Mettricon Stadium.

Australia, who played their lone Day-Night Test in November 2017, also go into the game with limited practice but their potent pace attack will be looking forward to wreaking havoc at the greenish pitch.

India did well in their first Test outing in seven years, drawing against England in June, but the players and experts believe the pink ball will pose a tougher challenge for the visitors.

India and Australia last played a Test in 2006 with only Mithali Raj and Jhulan Goswami featuring in that game among the current players on both sides.

"I would call it a trial by fire for the Indians," said former India captain and BCCI apex council member Shantha Rangaswamy. "The players have hardly played with the red ball in the last three-four years. A Day-Night Test is a completely different ball game and a much tougher challenge. Though Australia have more Test experience than India of late, their players also haven't played a lot in the whites. Some of their key players are missing and India showed (in ODIs) that Australia are beatable," added Rangaswamy, who led India to their maiden Test win in 1976.

Harmanpreet Kaur remains unavailable though she did have a hit in the nets on the eve of the game. "Harman had injured her thumb while fielding that is why she is out. It hasn't healed properly," Mithali said on the eve of the match.

Rookie batter Yastika Bhatia and pacer Meghna Singh, who made impressive debuts in the ODI series, could be handed their maiden Test caps. Veteran Jhulan, Meghna and Pooja Vastrakar is the likely pace combination. Spinner Sneh Rana is likely to be the other all-rounder in the side alongside Deepti Sharma.

Kohli capitalises on Royal mess as Rajasthan collapse from strong position

Once Rajasthan Royals had failed to put up a competitive total, it was Royal Challengers Bangalore's game to lose. And after a 48-run opening partnership in five overs between Virat Kohli and Devdutt Padikkal, they were never going to fluff their lines. Unlike Royals, RCB embraced common sense batting on their way to a seven-wicket win with 17 balls to spare, chasing 150. Kohli's team is now on 14 points, on the cusp of the Playoffs.

The RCB captain looked to be in the mood until a brilliant Riyan Parag throw from backward point ran him out at the bowler's end. Padikkal capitalised on a dropped catch by Sanju Samson off Chetan Sakariya when he was on six. But RCB would be most happy with Glenn Maxwell's upturn in form at the business end of the tournament. After a Man-of-the-Match performance against Mumbai Indians, the Australian scored another unbeaten half-century, off 30 balls.

Maxwell's fifty

There has been a change. In back-to-back games, Maxwell never looked like trying to hit the cover off the ball. His knock against Royals had six fours and a six. All the while, he gave the impression of staying till the end and finishing the job.

KS Bharat complemented Maxwell well with a 35-ball 44, playing some good horizontal-bat shots along the way. Royals' modest total followed by a rollicking start to RCB's innings meant that the duo was never under any scoreboard pressure.

Royals' middle-order implosion

They imploded from a prosperous position. Thanks to Evin Lewis' power-punch, Royals were 56 for no loss after



Maxwell scored an impressive 50 as RCB beat RR by 7 wickets.

the Powerplay. When Lewis' opening partner Yashasvi Jaiswal got out in the ninth over after a 77-run stand, they were still going at nine runs per over and looking set for a total close to 200.

Things turned on their head after Lewis departed for a 37-ball 58. Samson would be disappointed, for he let his side down with a poor shot. The Royals skipper had the leeway to bat at his own pace and given his team's iffy middle order, needed to bat deep. But he flattered to deceive.

Royals had just lost a wicket; Mahipal Lomror giving Yuzvendra Chahal a premeditated charge and getting stumped comfortably. Then, Samson fell prey to his bravado. Kohli had brought on spinners from both ends and it was Shahbaz Ahmed's first ball. The delivery drifted away a little, Samson came down the track, hardly got to the pitch of the ball but went through with the shot. Padikkal at sweeper cover

didn't have to move an inch. Poor shot selection is a reason why Samson has failed to cement his place in the Indian T20 squad and he refuses to learn from his mistakes.

In the same over, Rahul Tewatia went for a sweep without riding the extra bounce. Padikkal took another catch, this time at deep backward square. Liam Livingstone came to the IPL with a big reputation. In England, however, he barely faces top-class spinners and Chahal in Asian conditions is a different kettle of fish. Livingstone swung at a flighted delivery and shook his head. The Royals' batting suffered from collective irresponsibility.

From 109/2 after 12 overs, they slumped to 129/6 after 16. Then, Harshal Patel dealt with the tail, taking the wickets of Parag and Chris Morris off consecutive deliveries followed by Sakariya's scalp to take his tournament tally to 25.

Sheriff hand Real a shocker as Messi announces himself in PSG's 2-0 win over City

PARIS (TIP): Lionel Messi gave Paris St Germain fans what they came for as he helped them beat visitors Manchester City 2-0 in their Champions League clash with his first goal for his new club on Tuesday, Sept 28.

The Argentine forward, who joined PSG on a two-year contract after leaving Barcelona, found the top corner superbly in the second half to add to Idrissa Gueye's early first-half opener and put the capital club top of Group A on four points.

The 34-year-old Messi had been quiet on his fourth appearance for PSG until he netted on the counter as his link up play with their France striker Kylian Mbappe bore fruit.

"I'm very happy to have scored. I've not been playing much recently and adapting to my teammates little by little," Messi said through a translator.

"The goal was fantastic," City coach Pep Guardiola said.

Sheriff shoot down Real

Madrid: The start to life in the Champions League couldn't be going much better for Moldovan club Sheriff.

Sebastien Thill scored a 90th-minute winner as the newcomers stunned Real Madrid 2-1 at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium.



Thill netted with a powerful shot into the top corner from the edge of the area to give Sheriff their second consecutive victory.

The lead Group D with six points, three more than Madrid and five more than both Shakhtar Donetsk and Inter Milan, who drew 0-0 in Ukraine in the other group match. "For us this is a dream come true to have won here," Sheriff captain Frank Castaneda said.

LADOO MATRIMONIAL

ਰਿਸ਼ਤੇ ਹੀ ਰਿਸ਼ਤੇ RISTHE HI RISTHE

We Provide Worldwide Services



Jetander Sapra

212-470-7175, 516-309-0236

ladooatrimonial@gmail.com

jetandersapra@gmail.com

261-03, Hillside Ave, Floral Park-11004

www.ladooatrimonial.com

Indian Visa Center

VISA / OCI PIO / PASSPORT
APPLICATION ASSISTANCE CENTER

349 S. Broadway, Hicksville, NY 11801

DEEPAK BANSAL

Email: deepakbansalny@gmail.com

Cell: 516.304.8808 Fax: 516.218.8009

WE THANK OUR CUSTOMERS FOR THEIR TRUST & LOYALTY

26 YEARS OF EXCELLENT CUSTOMER SERVICE



INDO US EXPRESS, INC.

HICKSVILLE, NEW YORK

WORLDWIDE COURIER FREIGHT-FORWARDER
DOMESTIC & LOCAL DELIVERY

CALL US AT: 212-447-5720 or FAX 516-932-3750

ALTERNATE NUMBER: 347-538-7041

OR EMAIL US: INDOUSEXPRESS@GMAIL.COM

www.indousexpress.com

GREAT SERVICE, 7 DAYS A WEEK, 365 DAYS A YEAR!

CALL ABOUT OUR SPECIAL RATES



TO INDIA/WORLDWIDE



Rohan Handa
Executive Partner
New York Life

Do you want to succeed in a very rewarding career?

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

IS HIRING

Do you want to capitalize on your ability to produce?

COME CHECK IT OUT!

CALL MR. ROHAN HANDA 718-286-1132 | 516-435-6120

Conveniently located at:
95-25 Queens Blvd., 4th Floor
Rego Park, N.Y. 11374



Get
to the
Point



The **INDIAN PANORAMA**

EVER TRUTHFUL

A DELIGHTFUL READING EVERY WEEK

Widest Coverage

Your Trusted Partner in Business

The Indian Panorama

P.O. Box No. 190067, South Richmond Hill, NY 11419, Tel: 646-247-9458
Dallas Edition - P.O. Box 121695, Arlington, TX 76012

www.theindianpanorama.news



**The Indian Panorama
FOR FREE AT**

www.theindianpanorama.news







ਦੇਗ ਤੇਗ ਫਤਿਹ
 ਪੰਥ ਕੀ ਜੀਤ॥
 ਰਾਜ ਕਰੇਗਾ ਖਾਲਸਾ

ਪੰਨੁ ਪੰਨੁ ਰਾਮਦਾਸ ਗੁਰੂ ਜਿਨਿ ਸਿਰਿਆ ਤਿਨੈ ਸਵਾਰਿਆ।।
ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਸ਼ਹੀਦਾਂ ਇਕ .
GURUDWARA SHAHEEDAN INC.
 ਅਸਥਾਨ ਪੰਨ - ਪੰਨ ਬਾਬਾ ਦੀਪ ਸਿੰਘ ਜੀ ਸ਼ਹੀਦ
 18W, Nicholai Street, Hicksville, NY 11801
 ਵੱਲੋਂ ਨਿਊਯਾਰਕ ਟਰਾਈ ਸਟੇਟ ਦੀਆਂ ਸਮੂਹ ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਕ
 ਕਮੇਟੀਆਂ, ਸੁਸਾਇਟੀਆਂ, ਸਭਾਵਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਟਰਾਈਸਟੇਟ ਦੀਆਂ
 ਸਮੂਹ ਸੰਗਤਾਂ ਦੇ ਸਹਿਯੋਗ ਨਾਲ




ਪੰਨ ਪੰਨ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਰਾਮ ਦਾਸ ਜੀ ਦੇ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ ਪੁਰਬ ਨੂੰ ਸਮਰਪਿਤ

ਪਹਿਲਾ ਵਿਸ਼ਾਲ ਨਗਰ ਕੀਰਤਨ

ਮਿਤੀ 02 ਅਕਤੂਬਰ ਦਿਨ ਸ਼ਨੀਵਾਰ
ਹਿੱਕਸਵਿੱਲ ਲਾਂਗ ਆਈਲੈਂਡ ਨਿਊਯਾਰਕ



ਰੂਟ ਨਗਰ ਕੀਰਤਨ

ਨਗਰ ਕੀਰਤਨ ਰੁਪਹਿਰ 12.30 ਵਜੇ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਗ੍ਰੰਥ ਸਾਹਿਬ ਜੀ ਦੀ ਛਾਂਡ ਛਾਇਆ ਅਤੇ ਪੰਜ ਪਿਆਰਿਆਂ ਦੀ ਅਗਵਾਈ ਵਿੱਚ ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਸ਼ਹੀਦ ਬਾਬਾ ਦੀਪ ਸਿੰਘ ਜੀ ਦੇ ਅਸਥਾਨ ਤੋਂ ਅਰੰਭ ਹੋ ਕੇ ਨਿਕੋਲਈ ਸਟਰੀਟ ਤੋਂ ਜੈਰੋਬਿਲਮ ਐਵਨਿਊ ਤੇ ਲੈਫਟ ਚਾਰ ਸਟਰੀਟ ਤੇ ਲੈਫਟ ਤੇ ਬਰੋਡਵੇਅ 107 ਤੇ ਲੈਫਟ ਤੇ ਹੋਂਦਾ ਹੋਇਆ ਈਸਟ ਬਾਰਸਲੇ ਸਟ੍ਰੀਟ ਤੇ ਆਸਾ ਮਾਈ ਮੰਦਰ ਦੇ ਸਾਹਮਣੇ ਬੇਅ ਐਵਨਿਊ ਤੇ ਲੈਫਟ ਤੇ ਯੋਨ ਸਟ੍ਰੀਟ ਤੇ ਲੈਫਟ ਤੇ ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦਰਬਾਰ ਦੇ ਸਾਹਮਣੇ ਬਰੋਡਵੇਅ 107 ਤੇ ਲੈਫਟ ਤੇ ਨਿਕੋਲਈ ਸਟ੍ਰੀਟ ਤੇ ਲੈਫਟ ਹੋ ਕੇ ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਸ਼ਹੀਦਾਂ ਵਿਖੇ ਸਮਾਪਤੀ ਹੋਵੇਗੀ।

ਵਿਖੇ
ਸਜਾਇਆ
ਜਾ ਰਿਹਾ ਹੈ।

ਨਗਰ ਕੀਰਤਨ ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦਰਬਾਰ ਵਿਖੇ ਬੋਝੀ ਦੇਰ ਲਈ ਰੁਕੇਗਾ ਜਿਥੇ ਸਟੇਜ ਲਗਾਈ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ ਇਸ ਦੇ ਨਾਲ ਹੀ ਆਸਾ ਮਾਈ ਮੰਦਰ ਵਿਖੇ ਵੀ ਠਹਿਰਾਵ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ, ਇਹ ਸਾਡੇ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਆਪਸੀ ਭਾਈਚਾਰਕ ਸਾਂਝ ਵਧਾਉਣ ਵੱਲ ਇੱਕ ਕਦਮ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ।

ਬੇ
ਨ
ਤੀ

ਸਮੂਹ ਸੰਗਤਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਬੇਨਤੀ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਇਹ ਵਿਸ਼ਾਲ ਨਗਰ ਕੀਰਤਨ ਗੁ: ਸ਼ਹੀਦਾਂ ਇਕ, ਹਿੱਕਸਵਿੱਲ, ਗੁ: ਗੁਰੂ ਗੋਬਿੰਦ ਸਿੰਘ ਸਿੱਖ ਸੈਂਟਰ ਪਲੇਨਵਿਊ, ਗੁ: ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦਰਬਾਰ, ਹਿੱਕਸਵਿੱਲ, ਗੁ: ਮਾਤਾ ਸਾਹਿਬ ਕੌਰ ਜੀ ਗਲੇਨ ਕੋਵ, ਨਿਊਯਾਰਕ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਸਾਂਝੇ ਤੌਰ ਤੇ ਸਮੂਹ ਸੰਗਤਾਂ ਦੇ ਸਹਿਯੋਗ ਨਾਲ ਸਜਾਇਆ ਜਾ ਰਿਹਾ ਹੈ।

ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਗੁਰੂ ਗੋਬਿੰਦ ਸਿੰਘ ਸਿੱਖ ਸੈਂਟਰ

1065 Old Country Rd, Plainview, NY 11803

ਅਸੀਂ ਟਰਾਈ ਸਟੇਟ ਅਤੇ ਸੰਸਾਰ ਭਰ ਦੀਆਂ ਸਮੂਹ ਸੰਗਤਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਪੰਨ ਪੰਨ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਰਾਮ ਦਾਸ ਜੀ ਦੇ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ ਪੁਰਬ ਅਤੇ ਇਸ ਨਗਰ ਕੀਰਤਨ ਦੀ ਲੱਖ ਲੱਖ ਵਧਾਈ ਦਿੰਦੇ ਹਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਨਾਲ ਹੀ ਸਮੂਹ ਸੰਗਤਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਨਗਰ ਕੀਰਤਨ ਵਿੱਚ ਸ਼ਾਮਲ ਹੋਕੇ ਇਸ ਦੀ ਸ਼ੋਭਾ ਵਧਾਉਣ ਲਈ ਅਪੀਲ ਕਰਦੇ ਹਾਂ।

ਨਗਰ ਕੀਰਤਨ ਦੇ ਪੂਰੇ ਰਸਤੇ ਥਾਂ-ਥਾਂ 'ਤੇ
ਖਾਣ ਪੀਣ ਦੇ ਪਦਾਰਥਾਂ ਦੇ
ਲੰਗਰ ਸੰਗਤਾਂ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਲਗਾਏ ਜਾਣਗੇ।



ਇੰਦਰਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਪ੍ਰਧਾਨ



ਇੰਦਰਪਾਲ ਸਿੰਘ ਢੱਲ
ਚੇਅਰਮੈਨ



ਵਰਿੰਦਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਸਿੱਕਾ
ਜਨਰਲ ਸਕੱਤਰ



ਗਿਆਨੀ ਭੁਪਿੰਦਰ ਸਿੰਘ
ਫੋਨ : +1-917-353-7265
+1-516-680-2620

ਵੱਲੋਂ : ਸਮੂਹ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਕ ਕਮੇਟੀ, ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਗੁਰੂ ਗੋਬਿੰਦ ਸਿੰਘ ਸਿੱਖ ਸੈਂਟਰ, ਪਲੇਨਵਿਊ, ਨਿਊਯਾਰਕ

Now the number 1 News Publication for Indian Americans
Opinio's technology helped increase interaction, engagement and monetization for The Indian Panorama

OPINIO

Source - Alexa
* Comparison between web visibility - NY NJ Newspapers

**BUSINESS GROWTH
THROUGH
DIGITAL MARKETING**

Time Is Money, What's your time Really Worth?

WEB DESIGN

ORGANIC SEO

DIGITAL MARKETING

TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

Got questions? We have answers! 
opiniomedia.com  just great, simple tech!

care@opiniomedia.com

Simplify your marketing with Opinio Media™

IT'S NOT WHAT BRANDS SAY, IT'S WHAT PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THAT MATTERS

INTELLIGENCE FOR TOMORROW

OPINION DEVELOPMENT

DIGITAL EVOLUTION

PLANS STARTING \$49/MONTH

Starter

\$49
per month

Premium

\$99
per month

Pro

\$199
per month

THE SCIENCE OF SOCIAL PR & BRANDING

Let's Talk.

Call us now @ 646-431-4064

OPINIO MEDIA, INC | 124 DEAN STREET, HICKSVILLE, NY 11801



EAST WEST OPTICIANS



***Eye Exam
*Contact Lens
*Eye Glass
*Sunglass**

Authorized Dealer of
Rayban, Prada, G.A.,
Versace, Flexon
& Much More.....

**MOST INSURANCES
ACCEPTED**



263-18 Hillside Avenue, Floral Park, N.Y. 11004
Phone: 718-335-6000; 718-533-6664
Phone / fax: 718-457-5988, Phone /Text:718-514-0025

Order Online: www.eastwestopticians.com
Email: anilguptaus@yahoo.com
Mon to Sat : 12.00 P.M to 7.00 P.M. Sunday with Appt.

Full Service Unisex Salon

Rita's Beauty Parlor

THREADING SPECIALIST
SPECIALIZING IN : • Eyebrow Threading
 • Ayurveda Herbal Facials • Mini Facials
 • Full Body Waxing • Brazilian Waxing
 Bridal Makeup • Mehendi
 • Unisex Hair Cuts and Hair Styling
 • Fruit Based Color Highlights
 and Ladies Body Massage

**Soothing Relaxing Atmosphere
 Quality Services
 High on Hygiene & Sanitized Parlor**



**Open Tuesday to Sunday
 10.00 am to 7.30 pm**

454 S BROADWAY, HICKSVILLE, NY 11801
516-622-9300 / 347-608-9424

Email: ritabeautyparlor@aol.com
www.ritasbeautyparlor.com

Call now
 and say coupon **TIP50FF**
 to avail discounts
BOOK ONLINE APPOINTMENT

Dr. Frederick M. Ruffen Audiologist

Restoring your ear power

**CELEBRATE THE
 SOUNDS
 OF YOUR LIFE**



***Hearing Aid Evaluation * Hearing Aid Repair
 *Tympanometry * Ear Wax Removal**

- Complete Audiological Evaluations
- Tympanometry and Acoustic Reflex Testing
- Hearing Aid Evaluations
- Advanced Ear Mold Selection Skills
- Swim Plugs, Musician Plugs, etc.
- Wide Selection of Hearing Aids
- Hearing Aid Accessories
- Assistive Listening Devices
- Amplified Telephones
- Complete Hearing Help Care for Hearing Aids
- Quarterly Cleanings and Hearing Aid Checks
- Hearing Aid Repair, Loss/Damage and Loaner Services
- Yearly Evaluations
- Computerized Expert Fitting of Hearing Aids

If you are missing the sounds of your life call to schedule a FREE hearing screening.
TOLL FREE: 1-800-924-7413

LOCATIONS

Nassau University Medical Center 2201 Hempstead Turnpike, East Meadow, NY 11554 Phone: 516-296-2704 Fax: 516-572-8885	30 Roosevelt Street, Glen Cove, NY 11542 Phone: 516-759-0008 Fax: 516-759-0013	680 Broadway, Massapequa, NY 11758 Phone: 516-541-4353
---	--	--

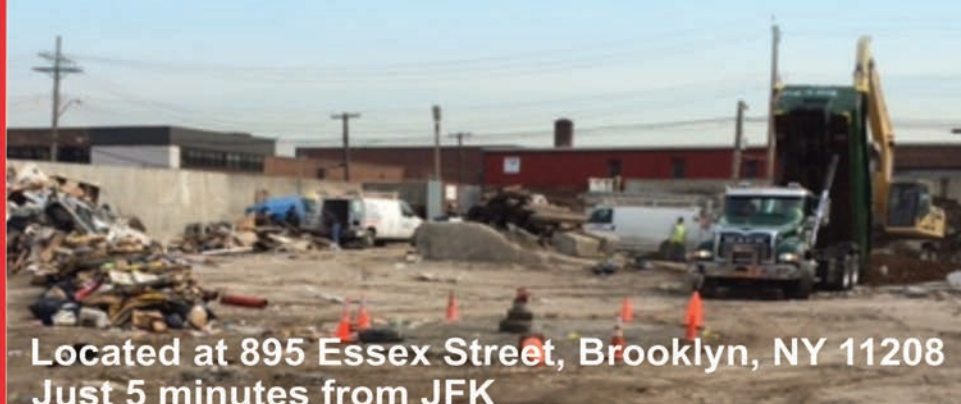
OFFICE HOURS BY APPOINTMENT / WALK INS WELCOME

ATLAS ROLL OFF CORP.

DISPOSAL SITE

**OPEN Monday - Friday 6.30 AM to 4.00 PM
 Saturday 6.30 AM to 1.00 PM**

**For construction Debris,
 Demolition & Cleanouts**



Located at 895 Essex Street, Brooklyn, NY 11208
Just 5 minutes from JFK

Roll Off Dumpster Service

10, 15, 20, 30 & 40 Yards

Serving all the five boroughs of New York Since 1983
 NYC BIC LIC #711

Reasonable low rates ** All major credit cards accepted

718-345-6451



A World without Childhood Blindness



Only by doing good can one benefit
-Rig Veda

An Eye Institute in Rajahmundry,
Andhra Pradesh to prevent
avoidable childhood blindness

Vision of Dr. V.K. Raju,
the Eye Foundation of America
and Goutami Eye Institute

- * 3.5 million + served
- * 350 thousand + surgeries
- * 30 thousand + on children

**Message from
Peter J. McDonnell,
M.D. Director Wilmer Eye
Institute, Johns Hopkins
University, USA on the
occasion of laying the
foundation stone on
December 10, 2020**



"On behalf of all my colleagues of the Wilmer Eye Institute in Baltimore, MO, I send my best wishes and congratulations to our friends in Goutami on this extremely important occasion. This beautiful facility will match the wonderful world class work of your doctors, nurses and staff in preserving and restoring the vision of so many patients. We in the United States are inspired by your dedication and admire your tireless efforts to serve so many who need your skills and compassion. Best wishes, Peter"

"There can be no keener
revelation of a society's soul
than the way in which it treats
its children". - Nelson Mandela



**POST
SURGERY**



**PRE
SURGERY**

Triplets Prasanth, Susanth and Nisanth, who were treated by Goutami Eye Institute three years ago and gifted vision for life, as ROP babies under GEMROP (Goutami Eye tele Medicine Retinopathy Of Prematurity).

Treating disease and vision problems
Performing free cataract surgeries
Screening infants and children
Distributing glasses and visual aids
Conducting Research
Providing Education

Be a part of
the movement.
Donate now at
www.eyefoundationofamerica.org
Tax Exempt
55-0621735

The work by the Eye Foundation of America team started in 1977 and has spread from India to 21 different countries. Additionally, EFA focuses on teaching and training of health professionals who receive the Foundation's support at every level.
<https://youtube/B23VvUaloN4> <https://youtube/KiCzqLQe2VE>

To know more about the work of Eye Foundation of America or to donate, visit www.eyefoundationofamerica.org

ॐ सर्वे भवन्तु सुखिनः Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah,
सर्वे सन्तु नरामयाः । Sarve Santu Niramayah
May all be prosperous and happy!
May all be healthy!

The Eye Foundation of America
695, West View Avenue, Morgantown, WV 26505
Phone: 304-599-0705
www.eyefoundationofamerica.org